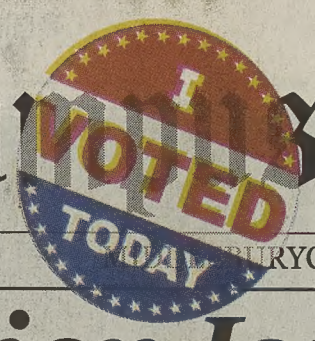
The Middlebury Campus

VOL. CXVII, No. 7 MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT, NOVEMBER 1, 2018 MIDDLEBURYCAMPUS.COM



Special Edition: The Election Issue

Hallquist Presents Progressive Vision for State's Future

By AMELIA POLLARD
Digital Director

Until Nov. 9, 2016, running for governor had never been in the playbook. A lifelong environmental activist and decade-long CEO, Christine Hallquist made a sharp professional detour after the election of President Donald Trump.

Hallquist is the first openly transgender person nominated for governor by a major party, and she is taking on Vermont's incumbent Phil Scott, a Republican, who is finishing his first term. On Election Day, she will appear on the Democratic line.

"I'm not a politico," she said as she sat down for an interview with The Campus at a picnic table outside Mead Chapel. "I had never marched before, was more a science, engineer-type person. But science isn't going to solve this. You have to be political."

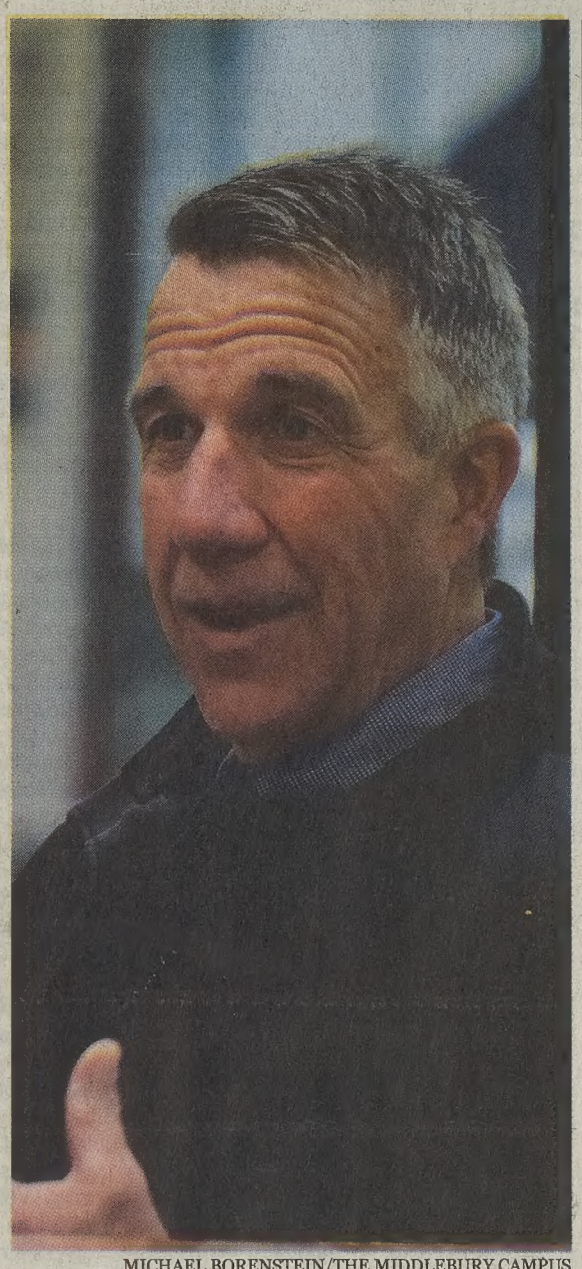
After President Trump's victory, she began participating in a series of marches as a means of dealing with her state of "political depression." Then she made the leap into politics herself, announcing her candidacy for statewide office in March.

Hallquist arrived in Vermont in 1976 from upstate New York. She quickly settled into her new home while involving herself in an array of local issues, including challenging a mining pit. "I wouldn't call myself an activist, but I was always doing something," she said. "That's what you do in Vermont if you're responsive — you get involved. But I decided to run for governor without having a clue."

After spending more than a decade as the chief executive of the Vermont Electric Co-op (VEC), she found that her experience in the utility sector dovetailed neatly with her gubernatorial platform. Hallquist's political agenda is centered on the junction of economic development and environmental sustainability. The thing that ties the two together, she says, is fiber optic cable, a material made from tiny glass filaments that can transmit data at tremendously high speeds. Currently, only 17 percent of Vermonters have access to fiber optic. Her ultimate goal: providing high-speed internet to all of Vermont.

Hallquist is convinced that expanding fiber optic cable across the state would have far-reaching benefits, from drawing young people to the state to reinventing the nature of the dairy industry. For dairy, she envisions a push towards artisanal products that can

Continued on Page A6



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Democratic gubernatorial nominee Christine Hallquist (left) is challenging incumbent Republican Governor Phil Scott. Though Hallquist has received a wave of national media attention, Scott, whose popularity in Vermont is bipartisan, is the favorite to win. The election website FiveThirtyEight gives him a 95 percent chance of victory.

More Women Running For Office in Vermont, Nation Than Ever Before

By SARAH ASCH
Editor at Large

Former Vermont Governor Madeleine Kunin had a favorite saying about representation in politics, one that stuck with many of the women she worked with: "If you're not at the table, you're on the menu."

It was with that philosophy in mind that Kunin founded Emerge Vermont in 2013 to help elect more women to public office. Kunin was inspired to start the organization after she spoke at a conference hosted by Emerge America, the national parent organization. Since its inception, Emerge Vermont has trained 88 Democratic women to run for office. 20 Emerge Vermont alumnae currently hold elected office in the state. In 2018, 34 Emerge Vermont alumnae are running for office or for reelection, including gubernatorial candidate Christine Hallquist.

These 34 Emerge alumnae run alongside a record number of female candidates across the country this year. According to PBS News, more women than ever before have won major party primaries in races for governor and Congress this year. Most of these women are Democrats. "I'm thrilled that so many women are thinking about it who haven't thought about it before," Kunin said in an interview with The Campus. "Emerge is really filling a need."

Though Kunin applauded the high number of female candidates, she said Vermont still has a lot of work to do. Vermont is the only state that has never sent a woman to Congress. Kunin is the only female governor to have served in Vermont.

Many women in government are working to change the state's political culture to make it more egalitarian. State Sen. Debbie Ingram (D-Chittenden) said that women need to run to advocate for issues that impact them disproportionately, such as women's health care needs and child care.

"When half the population is female then we should have a similar proportion in our government," Ingram said. "We can't expect men to continue to be in the majority and represent our interests. We need to speak for ourselves."

But it is often a challenge to get women to run for public office, as State Rep. Jill Krowinski (D-Chittenden 6-3) experienced firsthand. Krowinski currently serves as the House majority

Continued on Page A3

Incumbent Scott, Favored to Win, Says Stay the Course

By SADIE HOUSBERG
Senior Local Editor

Surrounded by machine parts and agricultural equipment at a promotional event for state Senate candidates, incumbent Governor Phil Scott sat down with The Campus to discuss his platform for re-election on a rainy October evening. The smell of Porky's BBQ & Smokehouse's well-loved brisket and mac n' cheese wafted in from outside as Scott spoke to his desire to do what he can to "forward Vermont."

While most other states across the country are gearing up for gubernatorial midterms, Vermont is one of only two states where the term for governor lasts for just two years. Next week, on Election Day, Nov. 6, the state will vote to elect either the Republican Scott or — in what would be a major upset — his challenger, the Democrat and political newcomer Christine Hallquist.

Republican governors historically tend to be popular in liberal Northeastern states, and Scott is no exception. Last year, a Morning Consult poll showed Scott's approval rating at 60 percent, ranking him as the seventh most popular governor in the country. But, according to another survey released in July of 2018, Scott suffered a net drop of 38 points in approval — driven mostly by Republicans. Conservative disapproval stemmed largely from Scott's shifting position towards stricter gun control in the wake of the school shooting in Parkland, Fla. and the foiled shooting plot in Fair Haven, Vermont.

Scott currently retains a relatively solid 45 percent approval rating, according to a VPR - Vermont PBS Poll. Combined with the natural advantage of incumbency, this base of support may be enough to indicate a likely victory. The national election tracking website FiveThirtyEight gives him a 95 percent chance of winning as Election Day draws near.

Poised for gubernatorial reelection, Scott, a racecar driver turned long-term politician, sits at the wheel of what could be a rocky second term in office. With a state legislature heavily dominated by Democrats, Republican nominees falling behind in many other states and much work to do in Vermont, Scott is up against significant challenges.

Scott would have a lot left to accomplish in a brief second term to realize even his 2016 campaign promise: "grow the economy, make it more affordable, and protect the most vulnerable."

Continued on Page A6

VAN BARTH/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

The candidates for Addison County's two state Senate seats were among those who debated in a town hall last month.

Packed Addison County Senate Race Most Expensive in History

By BOCHU DING
News Editor

MIDDLEBURY — The race to represent Addison County in the Vermont Senate is shaping up to be one of the most competitive in the state's history. With the announcement of Claire Ayer's '92 (D-Addison) retirement, six candidates are vying to fill the district's two seats in Montpelier. Total campaign funding has exceeded $100,000, a historic high, making up a disproportionate 20 percent of the total Vermont Senate campaign financing across 13 different districts.

Incumbent Sen. Chris Bray (D-Addison), seeking to defend his seat, is joined by fellow Democratic candidate Ruth Hardy. Two "pro-business" Independents, Blue Spruce Farm owner Marie Audet and Vermont Coffee Company owner Paul Ralston, have also entered the race on a joint ticket, with the support of Gov. Phil Scott (R). Republican Peter Briggs and Libertarian Archie Flower are also running in the highly contested election.

Ayer's vacant seat prompted Ruth Hardy to put her name on the ticket, but Hardy is no stranger to politics. She serves as the executive director of Emerge Vermont, a non-profit organization that trains and helps women run for office, graduating prominent alumnae such as Christine Hallquist, this year's Democratic gubernatorial nominee. She also served three terms on local school boards.

"By running for the State Senate myself, I am walking the talk," Hardy said. "I am doing what I ask of other women – which is to step up and run for office when the opportunity arises and when the need is great."

This may in part explain why Hardy, a first-time senate candidate, has amassed the most individual donors of any candidate, and obtained endorsements from key Democratic figures like former Governor Madeleine Kunin, the state's first and only female governor, Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vermont) and Ayer herself. Hardy's platform focuses on access to healthcare, affordable education and child care, as well as climate change.

After knocking on more than 1,500 doors, she concluded that health care access and affordability is the number one concern of Addison County residents.

"What I am hearing from voters over and over again is that they are worried about health care," Hardy said. "What I would like to work on is having universal access to primary care as a starter for Vermont."

Audet, the other first-time candidate, describes herself as an "organic candidate," saying that her extensive experience in local business and her ties to the community are what pushed her to put her name on the ballot.

"Paul and I are coming at this from a position of experience, having firm ties to our commu-

Continued on Page A7

MIDDVOTE WANTS YOU TO VOTE

By KACEY HERTAN
Senior Writer

The student group MiddVote has led the charge to increase voter participation on campus this election season with the goal of doubling Middlebury students' 14 percent voter turnout in 2014. Abby Dennis '21 and Nora Bayley '21 are spearheading the initiative as co-organizers.

MiddVote is a non-partisan organization that strives to increase civic engagement and informed voter participation. The group has provided resources and hosted events to help guide students through the voter registration and absentee ballot application processes.

"It's hard to tell people what to do and how to vote because it's different in every state," Dennis said.

Hazel Millard '18 founded MiddVote with help from the college's Center for Community Engagement (CCE), which provides funding. Thanks to Millard, MiddVote has a master document detailing voter registration and absentee ballot instructions and online application links and due dates for each state. At MiddVote's voter drives, students can find stamps, envelopes and copies of each form for states that use a non-electronic system. MiddVote even mails student's forms. MiddVote and the CCE worked together to provide the Center for Careers and Internships, Mail Center and Residential Commons offices with stamps to give students for free.

Since the beginning of the school year, MiddVote has helped more than 60 students register to vote and more than 160 students apply for an absentee ballot.

"Even if students don't stop, simply seeing our table in Wilson reminds students to register on their own," Bayley said.

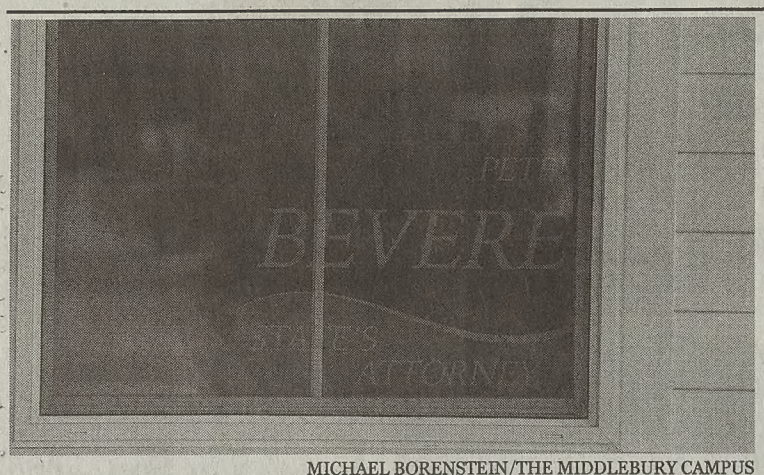
Along with drives, MiddVote has organized a shuttle that will run from Adirondack Circle (ADK) to the polls every hour on Election Day, Nov. 6.

A #VoteTogether Celebration organized by MiddVote and the CCE will also be held at College Park across from Shafer's Market & Deli on Election Day from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Free pizza, hot chocolate and face-painting by college student volunteers will be provided. The event is a local celebration under the national #VoteTogether initiative, which aims to host 2,000 similar events across the country to bring community members together to vote and celebrate civic engagement. Bayley and Dennis won a grant from MTV's +1theVote campaign, which selects one application from each of the 50 states to receive funding for a voting celebration.

This event is especially important to MiddVote's organizers because in Vermont, citizens can register to vote on Election Day, and all Middlebury students registered to vote in the U.S. are eligible to vote in Vermont.

"A lot of students have been regis-

Continued on Page A2



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

A Peter Bevere sign sits in the window of a Ridgeline Townhouse.

Two Battle in State's Attorney Race

By CAROLINE KAPP
News Editor

The Addison County state's attorney race is a battle of the husbands. Democratic incumbent Dennis Wygmans is the spouse of Nicole Curvin, director of admissions and coordinator of multicultural recruitment at the college. His independent challenger, Peter Bevere '96, is the spouse of Kelly Bevere '99, who works as the college's assistant athletic director and softball team head coach.

Lawn signs supporting each candidate have popped up around Addison County — and, in a reflection of the candidates' college ties, in the window of at least one campus dorm.

THE INCUMBENT

Two years ago, Wygmans was appointed to the role of state's attorney by then Governor Peter Shumlin, after his predecessor was appointed to the Vermont Superior Court.

After graduating from the University of Vermont, Wygmans took a unique path to becoming a lawyer, something he had always known he wanted to do. In 1993, he and his brother opened Club Toast, a live music venue in Burlington. The club eventually shut its doors in 1998, but the lessons Wygmans learned while working there still influence him.

"It informed me a great deal about what makes people tick," he said in an interview with The Campus. "I consider people's motives and think about ways we can address the underlying issues in a more complete way."

After the club closed down, Wygmans moved to Massachusetts to attend law school at Seton Hall University School of Law.

Prior to his appointment as state's attorney, Wygmans worked as a deputy state's attorney in both Addison and Chittenden counties, prosecuting many sexual and domestic violence cases. On several occasions, he tried cases involving the college, including two high profile rape cases, though Wygmans said he does not interact as much with the college in his current job.

"It is a pretty peaceful campus generally," he said.

Wygmans said he sees mass incarceration as not only a national issue, but one he must address in his role. He said he learned early on that jail is not always the right solution, describing it as a "monolithic approach to criminal justice." Wygmans is looking to pursue more options, including rehabilitative housing, a system that has been proven to be effective in other states.

"Creating rehabilitative housing allows for people to be sentenced to where they can be in the community, where their treatment provider is already, and they don't have to have an interruption in treatment, where they don't have to lose their job, and they certainly lose contact with their family," he said.

Wygmans also addressed the fact that Vermont incarcerates African American men at a higher rate than any other state in the country. He often uses a system of charging blind, a process in which he does not know the race of each defendant until afterwards.

"This is more than just a prosecutor's problem, this is a society- and community-wide problem," he said. Judges play a large role in the mass incarceration of African Americans, yet their sentencing data is rarely reviewed. Additionally, the penalties the legislature chooses to place on certain crimes disproportionately affect African Americans.

"The blame is to be passed around amongst us all," he said.

Wygmans cited the opioid crisis as another frustrating issue. During his time in the state's attorney's office, Wygmans has advocated for a treatment court, a voluntary program that helps users recover and offers defendants a path to having their criminal charges reduced or dismissed. To maximize funding, Wygmans developed one in conjunction with Chittenden County.

Wygmans also wants to rethink how mental illness is approached in the criminal justice system. "Instead of engaging prosecutors we should be engaging practitioners in these areas," he said. This would ensure that the treatment assigned is appropriate and addresses the dangers facing the individual.

Wygmans also discussed practicing restorative justice.

"When you go into a restorative justice model, the victim has an immediate say in what they want to have happen as far as resolution is concerned, within reason," he said. This often allows for both a more productive and just process. He has partnered with restorative justice programs in Addison County to find more effective methods for promoting justice.

Continued On Page A3

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN REGISTER TO VOTE IN THE TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY

By PORTER BOWMAN
Contributing Writer

VAN BARTH/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

The Middlebury Town Offices, where you should go vote, at 77 Main Street. There, you can also register to vote on the same day. Election Day is Nov. 6.

Forgot to apply for an absentee ballot in your home state? Unable to make it home on Election Day?

Well, as a Middlebury College student you are a resident of Vermont, which means, as long as you are eligible to vote in the United States, you can register and vote here in Middlebury on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 6. Vermont allows voters to register on the same day they vote, including Election Day. Vermonters are also allowed to vote and register early.

Any student can easily register in person at the Middlebury Town Offices or online before Election Day with valid identification. Here's how to do it:

REGISTERING IN ADVANCE

Students can register to vote in Middlebury prior to Election Day by visiting the Middlebury Town Offices at 77 Main Street. The office is open Monday-Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The office will remain open tomorrow, Nov. 2 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The office is closed weekends, and on Monday, Nov. 5, the day before the election.

Students can also register online (ww.olvr.sec.state.vt.us), but need to do so before Monday, Nov. 5 in order to ensure they are included on the printed voter checklist.

SAME DAY REGISTRATION

Vermont is one of only 15 states (plus the District of Columbia) to allow same day registration at the polls. This means that if you go down to the Middlebury Town Offices right now to register, you can also vote.

"Same Day Voter Registration is a great tool for us to use in order to ensure everyone's right to vote, " said Middlebury Town Clerk Ann Webster. "But if a large number of people wait until the last minute to register, because they can, this creates long waiting lines just for the registration process."

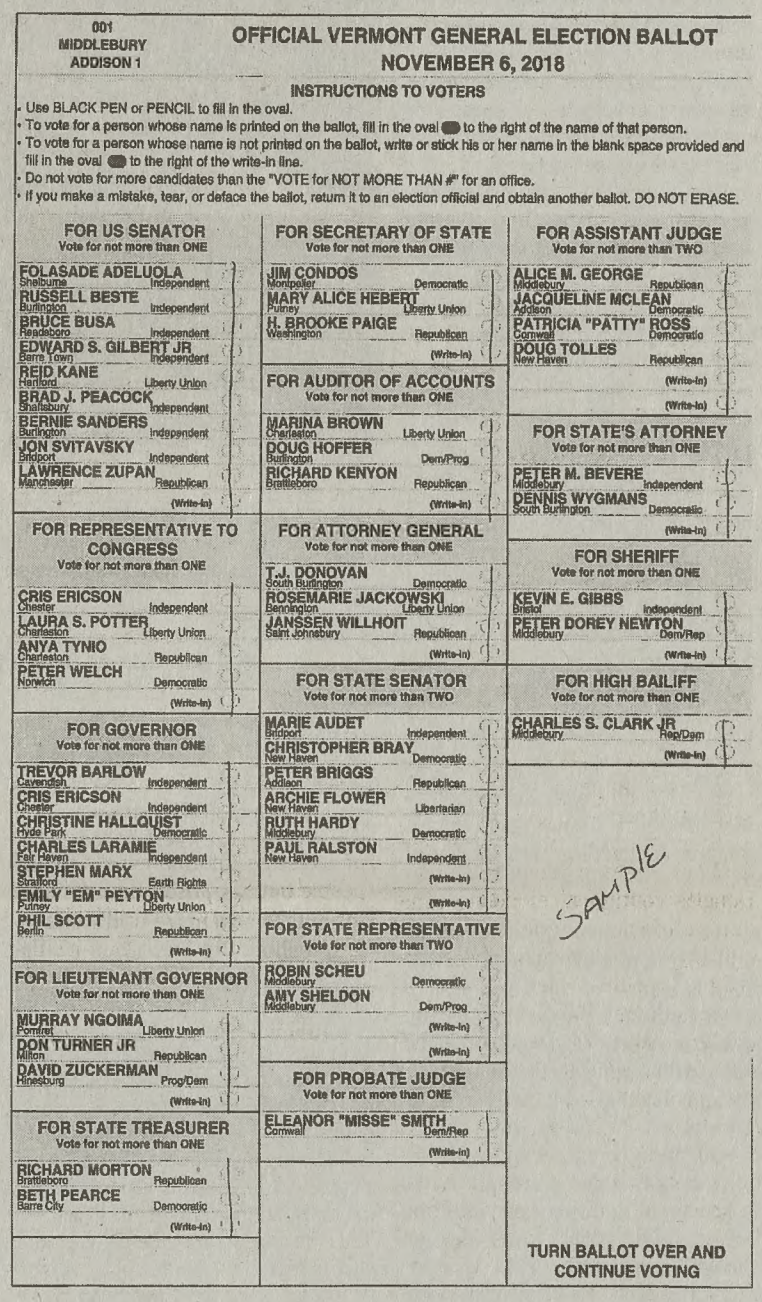
Webster strongly urges Middlebury students who plan to register in Vermont to do so as early as possible, but the same day process is an option meant to increase flexibility and access to voting.

Election Day voting will also occur at the Middlebury Town Offices at 77 Main Street. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

WHAT TO BRING

Whether you are registering early, on Election Day, or online, here is what you need: a form of ID, your Middlebury College ID (optional, but may speed up the process), the ID number from your Vermont driver's license (only if you're a Vermont resident), or, if you're not a resident, the last 4 digits of your Social Security number.

Webster also made sure to note that students are only allowed to vote in one state, so if you have already voted in another state for the Nov. 6 election, you are unable to vote in Vermont.



001
MIDDLEBURY
ADDISON 1

OFFICIAL VERMONT GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT
NOVEMBER 6, 2018

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- Use BLACK PEN or PENCIL to fill in the oval.
- To vote for a person whose name is printed on the ballot, fill in the oval ⬬ to the right of the name of that person.
- To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write or stick his or her name in the blank space provided and fill in the oval ⬬ to the right of the write-in line.
- Do not vote for more candidates than the "VOTE for NOT MORE THAN #" for an office.
- If you make a mistake, tear, or deface the ballot, return it to an election official and obtain another ballot. DO NOT ERASE.

FOR US SENATOR (Vote for not more than ONE)
- FOLASADE ADELUOLA — Shelburne — Independent
- RUSSELL BESTE — Burlington — Independent
- BRUCE BUSA — Readsboro — Independent
- EDWARD S. GILBERT JR — Barre Town — Independent
- REID KANE — Hartford — Liberty Union
- BRAD J. PEACOCK — Shaftsbury — Independent
- BERNIE SANDERS — Burlington — Independent
- JON SVITAVSKY — Bridport — Independent
- LAWRENCE ZUPAN — Manchester — Republican
- (Write-In)

FOR REPRESENTATIVE TO CONGRESS (Vote for not more than ONE)
- CRIS ERICSON — Chester — Independent
- LAURA S. POTTER — Charleston — Liberty Union
- ANYA TYNIO — Charleston — Republican
- PETER WELCH — Norwich — Democratic
- (Write-In)

FOR GOVERNOR (Vote for not more than ONE)
- TREVOR BARLOW — Cavendish — Independent
- CRIS ERICSON — Chester — Independent
- CHRISTINE HALLQUIST — Hyde Park — Democratic
- CHARLES LARAMIE — Fair Haven — Independent
- STEPHEN MARX — Strafford — Earth Rights
- EMILY "EM" PEYTON — Putney — Liberty Union
- PHIL SCOTT — Berlin — Republican
- (Write-In)

FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR (Vote for not more than ONE)
- MURRAY NGOIMA — Pomfret — Liberty Union
- DON TURNER JR — Milton — Republican
- DAVID ZUCKERMAN — Hinesburg — Prog/Dem
- (Write-In)

FOR STATE TREASURER (Vote for not more than ONE)
- RICHARD MORTON — Brattleboro — Republican
- BETH PEARCE — Barre City — Democratic
- (Write-In)

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE (Vote for not more than ONE)
- JIM CONDOS — Montpelier — Democratic
- MARY ALICE HEBERT — Putney — Liberty Union
- H. BROOKE PAIGE — Washington — Republican
- (Write-In)

FOR AUDITOR OF ACCOUNTS (Vote for not more than ONE)
- MARINA BROWN — Charleston — Liberty Union
- DOUG HOFFER — Burlington — Dem/Prog
- RICHARD KENYON — Brattleboro — Republican
- (Write-In)

FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL (Vote for not more than ONE)
- T.J. DONOVAN — South Burlington — Democratic
- ROSEMARIE JACKOWSKI — Bennington — Liberty Union
- JANSSEN WILLHOIT — Saint Johnsbury — Republican
- (Write-In)

FOR STATE SENATOR (Vote for not more than TWO)
- MARIE AUDET — Bridport — Independent
- CHRISTOPHER BRAY — New Haven — Democratic
- PETER BRIGGS — Addison — Republican
- ARCHIE FLOWER — New Haven — Libertarian
- RUTH HARDY — Middlebury — Democratic
- PAUL RALSTON — New Haven — Independent
- (Write-In)
- (Write-In)

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE (Vote for not more than TWO)
- ROBIN SCHEU — Middlebury — Democratic
- AMY SHELDON — Middlebury — Dem/Prog
- (Write-In)
- (Write-In)

FOR PROBATE JUDGE (Vote for not more than ONE)
- ELEANOR "MISSE" SMITH — Cornwall — Dem/Rep
- (Write-In)

FOR ASSISTANT JUDGE (Vote for not more than TWO)
- ALICE M. GEORGE — Middlebury — Republican
- JACQUELINE MCLEAN — Addison — Democratic
- PATRICIA "PATTY" ROSS — Cornwall — Democratic
- DOUG TOLLES — New Haven — Republican
- (Write-In)
- (Write-In)

FOR STATE'S ATTORNEY (Vote for not more than ONE)
- PETER M. BEVERE — Middlebury — Independent
- DENNIS WYGMANS — South Burlington — Democratic
- (Write-In)

FOR SHERIFF (Vote for not more than ONE)
- KEVIN E. GIBBS — Bristol — Independent
- PETER DOREY NEWTON — Middlebury — Dem/Rep
- (Write-In)

FOR HIGH BAILIFF (Vote for not more than ONE)
- CHARLES S. CLARK JR — Middlebury — Rep/Dem
- (Write-In)

SAMPLE

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

A sample ballot, as it will appear in Middlebury on Election Day, Nov. 6.

Past College Students Didn't Go to the Polls

By HANNAH BENSEN
Contributing Writer

Historically, college students vote at lower rates than other demographics, and midterm elections tend to have particularly low voter turnout compared to presidential election years. Middlebury students' voting record proves no exception.

58.1 percent of eligible Middlebury students voted in the 2016 presidential election, according to the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE), a report conducted by Tufts University. This was an increase from the college's 2012 presidential election turnout, when 49.8 percent of eligible students voted. Turnout in the 2014 midterm elections was far lower, with 14.3 percent of students voting.

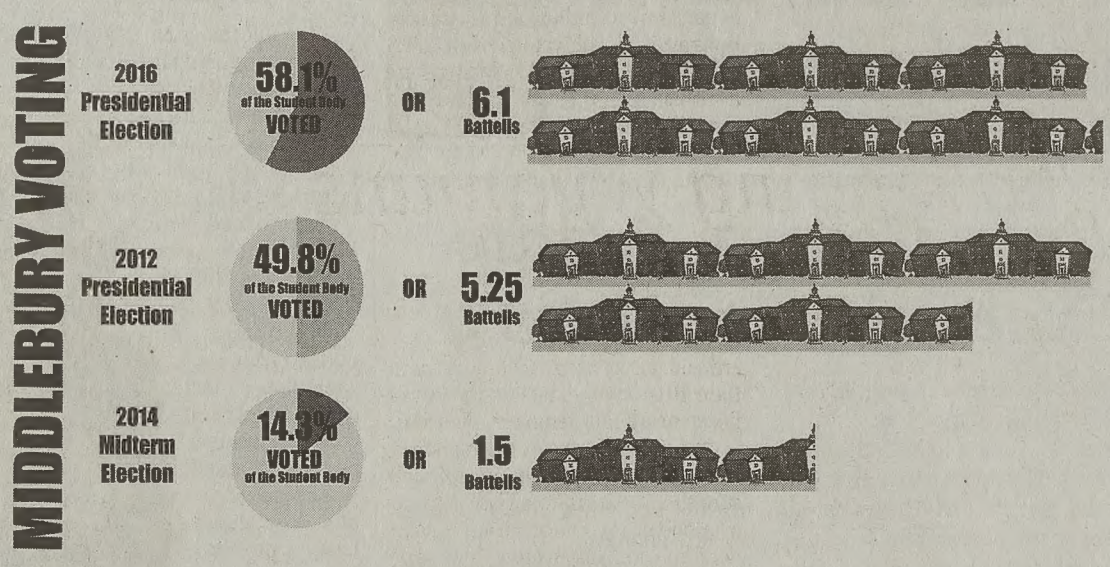
College students may face structural limits when trying to exercise their right to vote. Ashley Laux '06, program director for the Center for Community Engagement (CCE), said that there can be a lot of misunderstanding about the voting process.

"There is lot of general not-knowing," Laux said. "How do I register to vote if I'm not there? When is the absentee ballot request deadline? Or sometimes they pull up the forms and feel like it might be kind of confusing."

Laux also said that voting engagement for college students may have declined due to a decreased emphasis on civics education programs in high schools.

"Students aren't learning about basics around government systems or how state and federal governments work, and if some of that foundational knowledge is missing, then students' desire or tendency to vote may have gone down," she said.

Other barriers are more logistical. According to Laux, not knowing where to buy a stamp has prevented voters from mailing in absentee ballots, and lacking transportation to the polls can inhibit voting. To combat these obstacles, the CCE is offering free stamps, which students can also find at Commons offices, the Center for Careers and Internships, the Mail Center and other locations around campus in the weeks leading up to the election. They will also be providing hourly rides from Adirondack Circle to the polls on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 6.



Ideological beliefs may also affect student voter engagement. Hazel Millard '18, a former leader of the nonpartisan student initiative funded by the CCE called MiddVote, noted that the college's turnout in 2016 was higher than the average voting rate of all the institutions that participate in NSLVE's survey.

"Middlebury students were engaged in the 2016 election," Millard wrote in an email to The Campus. "I think that was in part due to the primary competition between [Bernie] Sanders and [Hillary] Clinton, since Democrats on campus seemed fairly split between the two candidates. This meant that many were paying attention early on in the cycle."

Ann Webster, the Middlebury Town Clerk, has noticed that college students' political engagement depends on which issues dominate the news cycle.

"Over time, it seems like the news we get through the media is much more geared towards entertainment, rather than somebody just telling you the news and letting you form an opinion about it," Webster said. "When I was younger, I think younger people did get engaged more than they did now because we had things like the Vietnam War, which was being shown to us every single day on the news and our friends were being drafted. It was something very political that had an impact on everybody's daily life."

Laux's goal for the 2018 midterm elections is for 25 percent of eligible students to vote. Laux is also planning in the longer term, seeking to continue the upward voting engagement trajectory from the 2012 and 2016 presidential elections.

In their efforts to eliminate barriers to voting, Laux and the CCE have focused on a Tufts University report titled "Election Imperatives," which was created as the result of research on ways to improve voter engagement on campuses.

The report offers recommendations for increasing student voter participation and improving "campus conditions for political learning, discourse and agency during the election season and beyond." Two of the recommendations emphasize informing voters and creating a permanent coalition that focuses on more than voting during election season.

"One of the things I'm thinking about is, after this election, how can students, faculty and staff keep voter education going?" Laux said. "How can we view it as more of ongoing process of educating yourself about community issues? Because in the long term, that's what will increase our voting rates the most: if people feel plugged into their community. Voting is just one slice of being connected as a citizen to your community."

MiddVote's student organizers are addressing the factors that lead to low turnout through person-to-person education and efforts to increase access to the polls.

Graphic by Esme Fahnestock.

MiddVote (cont.)

Continued From Page A1

tering in Vermont, especially people who missed the registration deadline in their home state. This event allows students to get to the polls, register and vote on Election Day," Dennis said.

In addition to posting reminders on its social media account, MiddVote has reached out to President Laurie Patton and the Student Government Association President Nia Robinson to send out campus-wide emails with voter participation reminders. MiddVote volunteers are also taking a grassroots approach by announcing reminders in classes.

The Middlebury College Democrats and the Middlebury College Republicans have left the voter participation push to MiddVote.

"I have huge respect for what MiddVote does. The Middlebury College Democrats have resisted pressure to do partisan registration out of respect for MiddVote," said Grace Vedock '20, the president of College Democrats. Although some members within the Middlebury College Democrats have pushed for encouraging voters to support Democratic candidates, the club's leadership has decided not to facilitate partisan voting. This has translated into club members volunteering at MiddVote drives rather than operating under the Middlebury College Democrats banner.

Dennis, Bayley and Vedock noted that the country seems more tuned into this election than in previous non-presidential election years.

"It is easy to get frustrated with government and feel like your voice isn't being heard, but the solution to that is not to not vote," Bayley said.

"If everyone says that their vote doesn't count, then their vote won't count," Dennis said.

Vermont Out Ahead on Felon Voting Rights

By CHRISTOPHER GERNON
Senior Writer

In 48 states, being convicted of a felony causes citizens to lose their right to vote — sometimes permanently. Vermont is one of two states where felons' right to vote is left intact.

There are tremendous amounts of variability in those 48 states when it comes to felon disenfranchisement. For example, Virginia, Tennessee and Wisconsin, among 13 other states, dictate that any person who commits a felony is ineligible to vote unless they take additional action. Such required action, like receiving a gubernatorial pardon, can be time-consuming and difficult to complete. In other states like Ohio, North Dakota or Utah, a felon's right to vote is automatically restored after incarceration. In other states still like Kansas, Minnesota and Connecticut, a felon's right to vote is automatically restored after completing their parole and/or probation. Vermont and Maine are outliers when it comes to the full enfranchisement of felons.

According to the Rockford Register Star, Rob Roper, the former chairman of the Vermont Republican Party, was one of the few who sought a change in Vermont's constitution.

"It's really an abomination that felons are allowed to vote," said Roper, "Who are they going to vote for? The people who are going to spend more money on prisons and who are going to let them out early so they can commit more crimes?"

Others, like Dave Silberman, an attorney and criminal justice reform advocate in Middlebury, see it as a political move. "If you can stop people from voting, it makes your job as politician easier," said Silberman, a supporter of felon enfranchisement.

While felon disenfranchisement is a topic of debate in many areas across the country, the discussion in Vermont has been one-sided. Felons have had the right to vote since Vermont's constitution was adopted in 1793.

"Our constitution has been amended very little since it was written. Clearly [allowing those incarcerated to vote] was a decision the founders of the state chose to make," said Jim Douglas '72 (R), former governor of Vermont. It was a conscious decision on the Founders' part, Douglas continued, to define committing election interference as the only way in which people can lose the right to vote in Vermont.

According to Kassie Tibbott, a recent graduate of Vermont Law School and a volunteer who helped register prisoners to vote in five of the six state prisons, many of the prisoners are surprised they have the opportunity to make their voice heard. The Department of Corrections uses several methods to inform the inmates of their right.

"At least 90 days before the elections, [the prison] posts in the living units or other bulletin board areas that inmates have a right to vote," said Chris Barton, the Vermont Department of Corrections restorative justice systems administrator. In addition, these notifications clarify how the process works for prisoners to get absentee ballots.

"Also, we have a workshop at least 90 days before the election which explains to our inmates how they [can] vote and it helps them fill out registration forms if they need. The workshop shares with them what it is to vote and just tries to make the voting process easier," Barton said. The Department of Corrections administers the same voting process in all six state prisons in Vermont.

Many see the enfranchisement of felons as crucial to preventing recidivism, the tendency for offenders to reoffend.

"Part of successfully reintegrating is feeling like you are a part of an entity," said Lisa Menard, the commissioner of the state Department of Corrections. "How powerful is it to be able to have some voice in how your community or how your state's government is run?"

Janssen Willhoit, a Vermont state representative, former inmate in Kentucky and attorney general candidate in Vermont, believes that establishing a connection with your community is the best way to prevent recidivism. He sees voting as essential to establishing this connection.

"I believe there is hope but only if we actually have the support in place to ensure that hope can resonate when [prisoners] leave that cell," Willhoit said. "[Hope is] very crucial with respect to having that community connection and that's related to the political process."

As an inmate in Kentucky, Willhoit recalled feeling dehumanized, a sentiment that at the time and, especially without the support systems he hopes to establish, discouraged his desire to participate in the political process. "To be honest, sitting there, [voting] was the last thing I thought about. There was a lot going on. I was raped by protection guards. Honestly, when you're in, you're just trying to survive," Willhoit said.

Often, there is an "us" and "them" dichotomy when it comes to imprisoned people and those who are free. However, Tibbott has experienced anecdotal evidence that prisoners who decide not to vote have similar motivations to those who choose not to vote outside of prison. "All the reactions I got were thanks but no thanks which are very similar to my friends and family who choose not to vote," she said.

She also saw parallels in how both those inside and outside of prison consume news.

"If you take a step back and consider where they [prisoners] are getting their information, I am assuming it is mostly from television," Tibbott said, adding that she wonders if prisoners should be provided with more ways of accessing information. "Although people outside prison do not necessarily take advantage of diversity of information. But then again it's that whole choice to do more research or discuss issues," Tibbott said.

Although enfranchisement gives felons a voice and an important connection to their community, Vermont's criminal justice system is far from perfect. According to the Sentencing Project, in the state of Vermont, people of color are incarcerated at a rate nearly 11 times that of white people. According to Silberman, people of color are four times as likely to be pulled over by the police compared to their white counterparts, and once pulled over, they are three times more likely to be searched.

"My bottom line is that those who are incarcerated are our neighbors and community members and a large percentage these individuals will rejoin us in our communities," Tibbott said. "I think it's important to feel like we are still connected and contributing to our communities when we are away for a period of time — whatever the reason. Our vote is our voice and the laws affect all of us no matter where we live."

The New Yorker Writer Halpern on the Threat of Election Hacking

Continued From Page A8

doors of the gym in which elections were going to happen, they could. Because the whole election system is decentralized, there are very few rules for how it needs to be administered, and that extends to that money.

Why is the decentralized system of elections in the U.S. always pinned as a point of a security, when it seems to also be a weakness? Do you think the U.S. would ever move to centralize its voting system?

Centralization would never happen because there's a wall between the federal and the state governments. The wall is that states are mandated to run elections. The states are very proprietary about that rule. And so, [centralization] would never happen because it's a states' rights issue and it would never be part of anyone's political future to take that on. In theory, a decentralized system is actually way more secure than a centralized system. If you have a centralized system, you have a very obvious attack surface. In a decentralized system, it's just a mess. You have to go hither and yon to deal with it. The system, weirdly, is often much more centralized than it appears on first glance. Elections, although they're run by states and counties, are often administered by private vendors and companies that will run election management systems for multiple states all at once. And so, they become an attackable surface. Decentralization, then, is a bit of a misnomer. It's never not going to be run in this somewhat disjointed way, but it's not necessarily the worst thing in the world. It's just that that notion that it's decentralized has been used as an excuse for why we shouldn't be worried about hacking, and that's just not true.

Was there something novel about the 2016 elections and Trump's candidacy that made us particularly susceptible to Russian influence? Or do you think the midterm elections are just as vulnerable to foreign meddling?

First of all, the kind of psychological hacking that was happening in the 2016 presidential elections started long before then. It was an attempt to begin to slow discord in an attempt to drive a wedge between us. It was certainly in response to Obama's presidency. So, it's not correct to say that it was specific to 2016 — it started well before that. With all the Twitter bots, Facebook ads and all of that. And those continue. A lot of that propaganda that began seeping into social media was then picked up by places like Breitbart and the Daily Caller and other outlets that are homegrown, and then they get repeated, and you start seeing things like the Proud Boys and what happened in Charlottesville. So, there's a viral nature to setting the fuse. Now we have a president whose point is to be divisive. His point is to inflame his base. It matters tremendously who gets elected in these midterms. The kinds of divisiveness that we're seeing coming from the Trump administration and that are being replicated in places across the country will either be challenged in this election, or will be ratified. In some ways, this election is as important, if not more important, than what happened in 2016.

Because of the public outcry that's emerged since the 2016 elections, do you think we're better off now than we were in 2016?

I sort of decided early on in this election cycle that I was never going to read anything that was speculative because it's just someone's opinion. I think it's irresponsible to say, "It's going to be worse!" or "It's going to be better!" Because we don't really know. We don't know what the Russians are thinking or what they're capable of, and I think we'd be remiss to imagine that it's just the Russians who would be interested in messing with our election system. The most we can do is point out where the vulnerabilities are and hope that the people who are in charge of these systems are paying attention.

In terms of Vermont, are you personally aware of any securitizing of Vermont elections? Has it been a topic of discussion, or do you think people should be talking more about it here?

Vermont is an amazing state in respect to elections. First of all, over 90 percent of eligible voters in Vermont have registered to vote. We are a very democratic state — we care about elections. We're such a small state that many elections take place in places where I live, in a small town, where we vote on a paper ballot that is put into a ballot box. At the end of the day, a group of citizens volunteers to sit together and count them. Those systems are so remarkably secure because you have a document in front of you, you have 12 people counting together. In that sense, Vermont has a built-in security system. That isn't to say that larger towns in the state don't vote on electronic voting machines, they do. But we have a very proactive secretary of state and we have a lot of voting reforms that have occurred in this state that suggest that people here care about elections and are paying attention. So, I'm not very worried.

It is a very rare day in Vermont when elections are contested. And that's the thing in states like Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Michigan or anywhere where an election is close — that's where it becomes particularly sticky. That, and where it looks like the registered population coming out of the polls appear to be saying one thing, and the votes are saying something else, that's suspicious. Those are the places where you really need to be worried, and that does not describe our state.

EMERGE VT AIDS WAVE OF FEMALE CANDIDATES

Continued From Page A1

leader and is a member of the Emerge Vermont advisory council. When somebody first suggested she run for office in 2012, she hesitated. Krowinski was familiar with politics. She had served as the director of the Vermont Democratic House Campaign, the executive director of the Vermont Democratic Party and run a gubernatorial campaign, but she saw her role as helping other women get elected. She said she "had to be talked into" running herself. This experience further hit home for her the importance of programs like Emerge.

Emerge Vermont offers two types of trainings for women: a six month in-depth training and a boot camp weekend option. The six-month intensive includes 70 hours of programing, during which participants learn about everything from public speaking and fundraising, to campaign strategy and field operations, to cultural competency and ethical leadership. During the training sessions, prospective candidates get advice from Washington experts and local politicians.

In 2018, the full program cost $750, and the bootcamp $265. Executive Director Ruth Hardy, who is currently working part-time as she runs for an Addison County state Senate seat, said there are several options available for women who cannot afford the full cost. "Scholarships are available, as are payment plans, and assistance with fundraising to cover tuition," she said. The 2019 tuition has not yet been set.

Hardy said that Emerge Vermont tailors their training to the state's political landscape, but that much of their curriculum translates to other places. She also noted that while "campaigning in rural areas is different than urban areas," alumnae sometimes move and run in other places. Hardy also mentioned that Middlebury students have participated in the bootcamps in the past, and that they would be welcome in the longer program as well, although the scheduling commitment would be difficult to balance with a full course load.

State Rep. Carol Ode (D-Chittenden 6-1), who graduated from Emerge in 2014, remembers that the program challenged her to consider all aspects of running for office. Ode and Ingram, who are both currently running for reelection, mentioned that they still receive support from Emerge in the form of bi-weekly strategy phone calls.

"We've had periodic phone calls where several of us get on together and trade ideas and talk about what's going on the campaign," Ingram said. "Emerge has sent out several emails highlighting those of us who are running and getting the word out."

Equally important to the strategy sessions, Ingram said, are the lasting relationships that Emerge alumnae form with one another. "We refer to each other as Emerge sisters and it really does feel that way, that we have a special bond," she said. "We help each other with campaigns and call each other to vent when we need to."

Ingram has also worked as a mentor for subsequent classes of Emerge trainees. As part of the program, the women spend a day shadowing a representative at the state house. "Some of them have reached out to me to ask if we can get coffee and ask me advice and I always try to make time to meet with them," she said. "I want to make sure I help women come along and get more women running for office."

For Democratic women considering running for office, Ingram, Ode and Krowinski all recommend Emerge Vermont as a good way to get started. Krowinski also noted that not all the women who participate necessarily end up as candidates. "We have alumnae who have gone through the program and didn't feel ready to run for office so my next advice for them was to get involved in a local campaign," she said.

Going forward, Emerge Vermont is considering expanding their program on the local level. "We are seeing a lot of interest, especially given the climate nationally, of women wanting to run for office," Krowinski said.

Applications for the next round of training will open in 2019, and the next training session will begin in the spring.

Editor's Note: Ruth Hardy is the spouse of Prof. Jason Mittell, The Campus's academic advisor. Mittell plays no role in any editorial decisions made by the paper. Any questions may be directed to campus@middlebury.edu.

Bevere '96 Challenging Wygmans for State's Attorney

Continued From Page A2

"My job is to make sure that people don't come back," he said.

A "firm believer in second chances," Wygmans stressed that individuals' mistakes should not ruin their lives forever. For example, he believes in creating pathways for expungement, a way for people to find a fresh start.

"Justice means that at some point you have paid your debt to society," he said.

COURTESY PHOTOS
Bevere (left) and Wygmans.

THE CHALLENGER

Bevere has long been interested in the job of Addison County state's attorney. Currently the Chief Deputy State's Attorney in Rutland County, Bevere has worked as a prosecutor for 12 years.

"I have experience in almost everything there is to handle in a criminal courtroom," he said in an interview with The Campus. During his time, he has seen serious felonies, handled numerous homicides and, in his current position, works many cases of sexual assault and the physical abuse of children.

Bevere generally considers himself politically independent.

"I don't like to be boxed into one party's position or the other," he said, adding that he views the state's attorney job in similar terms. "It's not our job to make the law, it's our job to make sure it's being fairly and equally enforced."

As an alumnus of the college and the spouse of a college employee, Bevere interacts with the school on a regular basis. He spends time with the softball and football teams, the latter of which he played for as a student. And he has taught a Winter Term course called "The Trial of Jon Snow: An Intro into the Criminal Justice System."

In the window of one of the college's Ridgeline townhouses, student residents have placed a sign supporting Bevere's campaign. Irene Margiotta '19, a softball team captain, lives in the house with another team captain.

"Peter is a great guy, always super supportive of the team and is always willing to help out," Margiotta said. Bevere often attends games and spends time on the sidelines with the players' families. "We just think he's a real stand-up guy," she said.

"As state's attorney, I would like to have, and think I could have, the ability to work closely with the college," Bevere said. He believes it is important for the college and the state's attorney's office to maintain a strong relationship.

"I want to continue to be a strong voice for Addison County and make sure that Addison County is not to be overlooked by some of the larger counties," he said. This means getting deputies and victim advocates the resources and support they need.

In sexual violence cases, Bevere discussed his "victim-centered approach.

"I always emphasize that we're never going to do anything that they don't want to do," he said.

Bevere noted that the decision of whether to report sexual violence, and subsequently pursue legal action, is completely up to the survivor.

"It's not about re-victimizing them just to hold someone accountable," he said.

On issues of racial bias, Bevere believes that the state has made great strides in addressing the state's disproportionate incarceration of African American men.

"I think as state's attorney it's important that we're looking at cases and we're being fair and impartial, as to what we're charging and that we're consistent," he said.

Bevere recognized that mental health plays a significant role in criminal justice.

"What is shocking to me is the number of victims of crime that I've come across who have mental health issues, and the lack of resources that are available to them," he said.

Throughout his time as a prosecutor, Bevere has come to see justice as a balancing act.

"You have to balance your communities need for protection, and a victim's need for protection," he said. For this reason, Bevere supports the use of restorative justice programs, especially in relation to treating the opioid crisis.

Bevere sees aiding children as his most important work. He often works with children who are victims of physical or sexual violence.

"Those kids come up to you and say, 'Thank you for believing me,' because not everybody does," he said. "This is why I do this."

Bevere's campaign is centered around two main ideas, beginning with the diversity of his experience. "I think that it's important that your state's attorney has experience in just about everything there is to experience," he said. Compared to Wygmans, Bevere said, "I bring more experience to the table."

Second, Bevere is focusing on his residence in Addison County. In Vermont, state's attorneys do not need to live in the same county they serve in public office. But Bevere, who lives in Middlebury, has made an issue of Wygmans's residence in Chittenden County.

"I'm the only candidate that's from Addison County, and I have a family I am raising here, friends here, I have a vested interested in the well-being of our county, our community," Bevere said.

Wygmans has pushed back on Bevere's claims. Having grown up in rural Vermont, Wygmans feels that he has a great understanding of what life is like in Addison County. Additionally, having worked in Addison County for six years, Wygmans believes he has fostered the relationships necessary to perform the job.

Just because he does not live in the county, Wygmans said, does not mean he does not care about it.

"I am on the scene when people die in car accidents, I am on the scene when people OD," he said.

"It's hard to say what my opponent actually stands for," Wygmans said, adding that Bevere has chosen to focus on each candidate's residency, rather than the issues.

"I want to talk about what we can do to make Addison County a safer place, but also a place that addresses the issues head on," he said. "And all he wants to talk about is being a local guy."

THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Will DiGravio
MANAGING EDITORS
Nick Garber
Rebecca Walker
DIGITAL DIRECTOR
Amelia Pollard
NEWS EDITORS
*Elizabeth Sawyer**
Bochu Ding
Cali Kapp
Catherine Pollack
OPINION EDITORS
*James Finn**
Chellsa Ferdinand
Diana Diaz
Lucy Grindon
Kyle Naughton
Joana Salievska
Ellen Colton
LOCAL EDITORS
*Sadie Housberg**
Ellie Anderson
Kenshin Cho
Bridget Colliton
ARTS & ACADEMICS EDITORS
*Finne Murphy**
Sarah Boyle
April Qian
Yvette Shi
SPORTS EDITORS
*Benjy Renton**
Nicole Hong
Miguel Espinosa
Erin Kelly
EDITORS AT LARGE
Sarah Asch
Emma Patch
Elaine Velie
PHOTO EDITORS
*Michael Borenstein**
Van Barth
Silvia Cantú Bautista
CARTOONS EDITOR
Kaitlynd Collins
COPY EDITORS
Maja Cannavo
Dani Skor
Annabelle Spezia-Lindner
BUSINESS MANAGER
Evan Chaletzky
ADVERTISING MANAGER
Ivy Houde
ONLINE EDITORS
Courtney Crawford
Tenzin Dorjee
Taylor Phillips
Sage Schaumberg
Monique Santoso
Emmanuel Tamrat

**Senior Editor*

The content written within the Opinion pages may cause emotional distress. Please exercise discretion. The Campus reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks.

More information about the paper and its submission policies can be found online at www.middleburycampus.com.

Follow us on Twitter @middcampus.
Follow us on Instagram @middleburycampus.
And on Facebook: The Middlebury Campus.

This Year, Let's Close the Turnout Gap

By THE EDITORIAL BOARD

The midterm elections on Tuesday, Nov. 6, present voters with the opportunity to restructure the national political landscape. This is a chance for voters to translate critiques of the Trump administration into tangible change by voting for ballot measures and candidates they feel represent their values.

But these midterms go beyond issues of national politics.

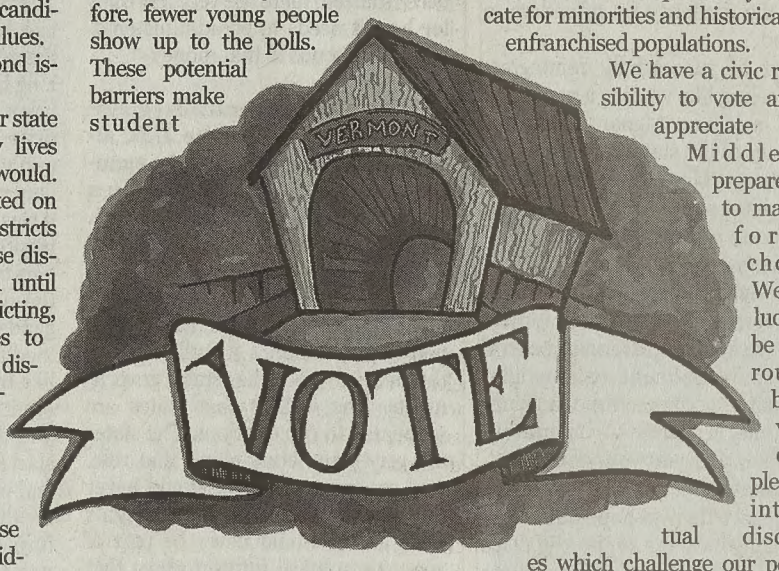
Gubernatorial races and other state elections may affect our daily lives more than a federal election would. Many of the state officials elected on Nov. 6 will redraw legislative districts following the 2020 census; those districts cannot be changed again until 2030. Often this partisan redistricting, or gerrymandering, contributes to systemic inequality and further disenfranchises marginalized voting populations by weakening a particular group's vote and guaranteeing that they have fewer representatives in office.

All this is to say: vote. Because not many young people do in midterm elections.

Historically, midterm elections have elicited significantly lower voter turnout than presidential elections. According to FairVote, a nonprofit voting rights organization, over 58 percent of eligible American voters showed up to the polls for the 2016 presidential vote, but only 35.9 percent participated in the 2014 midterm election.

Midterm turnout rates are notoriously low among voters aged 18 to 35. Millennials are now as large of a political force as baby boomers, according to the Pew Research Center's analysis of U.S. census data. Both generations make up approximately 31 percent of the overall electorate, yet millennials continue to have the lowest voter turnout of any age group.

Perhaps this is because young people move frequently, which makes voting more difficult. Or, maybe it is because campaign outreach efforts often overlook younger voters and therefore, fewer young people show up to the polls. These potential barriers make student votes even more important.



It's clear that young Americans care deeply about the future of our country. Much of the national activism in the last couple of years has been organized and supported by young voters. Movements like March for Our Lives, the Women's March and Black Lives Matter indicate the power and passion of young people. On our campus, students often participate in and organize political activity. At Middlebury, students volunteer for political candidates, push for more recognition and support for undocumented students and rally against the current presidential administration's redefinition of gender, among other political activity.

But movements and protests aren't enough. We need people to vote to bring the issues they care about and the issues which afflict their local communities into the legislative sphere. As the most diverse voting group, millennials have the unique ability to advocate for minorities and historically disenfranchised populations.

We have a civic responsibility to vote and we appreciate that Middlebury prepares us to make informed choices. We are lucky to be surrounded by a variety of people and intellectual discourses which challenge our political views. Our school gives us access to a wealth of magazines, newspapers, textbooks, ethnographies and journal articles, all of which we can use to bolster or challenge our own thinking. Voting gives us a way to translate the knowledge we accrue in Middlebury's academic environment into tangible social change.

We recognize that voting absentee can be a hassle. We also know that some states, like Georgia, have suppressed minority votes. Middlebury students are fortunate, however, to live in Vermont where same-day voter registration exists; the majority of states require voters to register 15 to 30 days before an election. We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity. If you find voting in your home state to be difficult, register to vote in Vermont.

Even if you don't vote in Vermont, it is important to follow the local races and debates. These races may seem detached from Middlebury College life, but they are not. They affect the discussions between Middlebury students, faculty, staff and the broader Vermont community. Living in a small state also gives us the opportunity to interact with accessible leaders and politicians, another rarity. Take advantage of the fact that your voice will be heard and become a part of the change that local and state governments can carry out.

Of course, political engagement must continue beyond Nov. 6. This means canvassing for future candidates, donating to organizations you believe in, going to protests, calling politicians to raise awareness about issues affecting your community, reading your local newspaper to understand what your neighbors care about, writing in to your local paper to express your views and having conversations with friends and family.

However, we have to acknowledge the ways in which, during this midterm season, Middlebury has a chance to overcome historically low young voter turnout and make our voices heard.

If we truly aim to be the engaged global citizens advertised in our college's mission statement, the least we can do is participate in this fall's elections. After all, what is the point of learning about the world if we never take action to change it?

Graphic by Esme Fahnestock.

Notes from the Desk: Why an Election Issue?

By WILL DIGRAVIO

Just about everyone says this is the most important election of "our" lifetime. In other words, this election will determine the future of Trumpism. All agree: a Democratic Congress most likely means a quicker end to the Trump Presidency. Some think this would be good, others bad.

But, this election is about much more than that — it is, as hyperbolic as it may sound, about the future of democracy. Voter ID laws are limiting voters, particularly people of color, from exercising the right many of us take for granted. Gerrymandered districts result in inaccurate and inequitable representation. In Georgia, Secretary of State Brian Kemp, also the Republican nominee for governor, is overseeing his own election, and has tried to purge eligible voters off the rolls and ignored the real threat of election hacking.

As Middlebury's own Scholar-in-Residence Sue Halpern tweeted in August, "Years ago, when I got my doctorate in political (democratic) theory, I never imagined disenfranchisement would still be a tactic, but here we are."

The Harvard Institute of Politics released Monday the results of their biannual National Youth Poll, which found that "young Americans are significantly more likely to vote in the upcoming midterm elections compared to 2010 and 2014." Hopefully, our student body will help prove their prediction true. In 2014, just 14.3 percent of Middlebury College students voted in the midterm elections. That is pathetic. It is even more pathetic that it took the last two years to remind us of the need to (hopefully) get out and vote.

Voting is more than just a fun activity from a "Schoolhouse Rock" song, it is a habit. Would you forget to dress up for a Halloween party? Buy gifts during the holidays?

And that's where the idea for an "Election Issue" comes in. Here we are, reminding you to vote. We're doing our part as young journalists to get you, and us, in the habit of voting — of thinking about the issues in your community, state and beyond.

If you missed your home state's absentee deadline, or won't be able to make it home for Election Day, we semi-forgive you. That is because it is not too late for you to vote here in Middlebury. Yes, as a Middlebury College student, you are a resident of Vermont. We explain how to vote in town step-by-step on Page A2. Since I know every student reads The Campus cover-to-cover, now no one has an excuse not to vote. Again, it's a habit. Do it.

Finally, I must say that this week's issue is the culmination of months' worth of planning and hard work by our entire staff.

Over the summer, when the managing editors and I pitched the idea to the rest of the team, they hit the ground running and never looked back. We are proud of their work, and grateful to those who agreed to talk with them during the course of their reporting, and to those who wrote op-eds.

Thank you and go to the damn polls.

Will DiGravio '19 is editor-in-chief.

Local Elections are in Your Hands

By HAYDEN DUBLOIS

In 2016, Republican David Ainsworth unseated incumbent Democrat State Representative Sarah Buxton by one vote in central Vermont — six years after Buxton had unseated Ainsworth.

In that same year, Vermont State Senator Bill Doyle — the longest serving Senator in Vermont history — lost by a fraction of a percent. And Francis Brooks, the person who defeated Doyle, had won the Democratic primary three months earlier by just one vote.

Two other Vermont House freshmen lost by less than one percent in that same election year.

Put simply: Vermont's local races — for Governor, Lt. Governor, State Senate and State House — are close. Really, really close. In this state, your voice really does make a difference.

In my time in Vermont politics, I've seen longtime members tossed out by the slimmest of losses, recounts make and break political careers and multiple races come down to one single vote.

This year, we're shaping up to have another set of what will likely be incredibly close races for local office. In fact, Addison County is expected to have one of the most competitive and interesting state Senate races in the entire state — with two Democrats, two Independents, a Republican and a Libertarian, all vying for two seats — one of which is being vacated by a retiring incumbent. We could have yet another recount on our hands.

Here in Vermont, your vote truly is your voice. And because of our small population, your voice is quite loud — loud enough to unseat incumbents or keep them in office.

So if you're not registered, register. And if you're not paying attention to what's going on in our state and local races, now's the time. Because your vote may very well be the deciding factor in an election.

My recommendation: start reading the local news, visit candidate websites and stay informed. And note that politics in Vermont is not like politics in Washington. You'll find many pro-choice and pro-gun reform Republicans, and many socially conservative Democrats. So pay careful attention.

But most importantly, get out there and vote.

Editor's Note: Hayden Dublois '17, of Montpelier, is an Executive Assistant in the Office of Governor Phil Scott. He previously worked on numerous state and local campaigns throughout Vermont.

Young People: You Should Care, Too

COURTESY PHOTO
Sonneborn, former Vermont gubernatorial candidate, with supporters.

By ETHAN SONNEBORN

It is clear that youth engagement in government and politics is more important than ever.

From the excitement and commotion of campaigns to the details of policy-making, young people are becoming more willing to campaign for candidates they care about, advocate for policies that make communities stronger, and vote. It is critical, especially now, to care about the results of the upcoming midterms.

Why should you care? Because the vast majority of elected officials don't have the same personal connection to many of the issues that matter most. They're done paying their student loan debt, they won't have to live in a world ravaged by climate change, they won't have to drink the water we pollute, they don't have to go to underfunded and underperforming schools. Even if your elected officials agree with you on these issues and many more, make sure your voice is heard and that our government understands that the policies they enact will determine our futures.

Throughout recent history, youth turnout has been disproportionately low. This election we can change that. By voting, you can send a message that our future matters. This election we can ensure that our leaders hear our voices. We can hold accountable those who voted against our interests.

On Nov. 6, let's disprove the conventional wisdom that midterms are always dominated by older voters. Your vote is your voice, and your voice should be as important to candidates as anyone else's.

Editor's Note: Ethan Sonneborn is a freshman at Mt. Abraham Union High School in Bristol. He ran for governor in June's Democratic primary.

This Year, Voting Isn't Enough

By ANDREW PLOTCH

COURTESY PHOTO
Andrew Plotch '18.5 spent the summer volunteering for Jason Crow, the Democratic nominee for a U.S. House district in Colorado.

In an increasingly nationalized political environment, it's easy to think that Vermont politics doesn't matter — Clinton carried the state by 25 points in 2016 and our U.S. Senator is a democratic socialist. That's why many students are surprised to learn that the governor, Phil Scott, is a Republican and a favorite to win re-election next week.

This year alone he has vetoed bills that would have mandated paid family leave, increased the minimum wage, implemented stronger regulations on toxic chemicals and supported public schools. Right now, liberals in Vermont are fighting to protect their seats in the state legislature and win a veto-proof majority.

Personally, I'm helping out Chris Bray and Ruth Hardy for Addison County's Senate seats and other Democratic county candidates. Through his work in Montpelier, Bray has proven himself a fighter for the environment and food access. Hardy is a first-time candidate — she used to work at the college and now leads Emerge Vermont, an organization that trains women to run successful campaigns for elected positions. You should not support or volunteer for them blindly on party affiliation — make an informed choice.

It is important to be involved in local politics. Despite artificial barriers that too many students construct between themselves and the larger Vermont and Addison County communities, we are members of those communities. We can vote here, we can volunteer here and we can make a difference here.

The national implications of this election — which party will control the U.S. House and Senate — are certainly of tremendous importance. Majorities could decide the future of immigration policy, court nominees, healthcare access, social safety nets, women's and LGBTQA+ rights, gun safety and ongoing investigations of the executive branch. This could be the most consequential midterm election of our lifetimes. Over the summer, I was working as a press assistant for Jason Crow, the Democratic nominee for a competitive U.S. House seat outside of Denver, Colorado, fighting for progressive ideals.

Examining the ballot from top to bottom is vitally important. This past decade, Democrats have lost nearly 1,000 seats at the state level across the country. The idea of a "Blue Wave" gives many liberals hope of winning back these seats during a depressing time. Yet waves don't just happen on their own. Election fundamentals are an important factor, but waves only materialize when we vote and volunteer.

Check online at go/Dems2018 to see volunteer opportunities between now and Election Day in Middlebury for Democratic candidates. Feel free to reach out at aplotch@middlebury.edu.

Editor's Note: Plotch is not currently employed by any campaign or political organization, all views expressed here are his own.

What to Make of the Midterms, From Two Political Scientists

"The Lifeblood of Politics"

By BERT JOHNSON

Money is the "lifeblood of politics," or so election observers have always said. The headlines about this year's congressional races would seem to confirm that this maxim is truer today than ever. Media outlets report fundraising hauls as if congressional campaigns — and indeed, the future of the country — depended on them. Political scientists view matters differently, and although popular conceptions aren't all wrong, they provide only part of the picture. Here are a few basic tenets of the campaign finance world, from the political scientists' point of view.

Money doesn't guarantee a win, but lack of money can guarantee a loss.

Of the top seven spenders in 2016 House races, three lost, even though they outspent their opponents by an average margin of more than three to one. In general, candidates try to raise and spend more money if they're in trouble in the polls, but they inevitably discover that if they're in a competitive race, no amount of spending suffices to make it non-competitive.

At the other extreme, candidates who spend next to nothing almost always lose. But they don't have to match their opponents dollar-for-dollar to make it close. All they need is enough money to get their message out to voters. To be sure, this need for a significant baseline spending level ($1 million or more in a typical House race) still means that well-connected, wealthy people with elite backgrounds have advantages. But these advantages are not insurmountable.

A lesson for this year's races: Don't assume that success in fundraising automatically means success at the polls. And don't assume that a candidate will lose just because he or she is being outspent.

Politicians aren't (necessarily) bought and paid for.

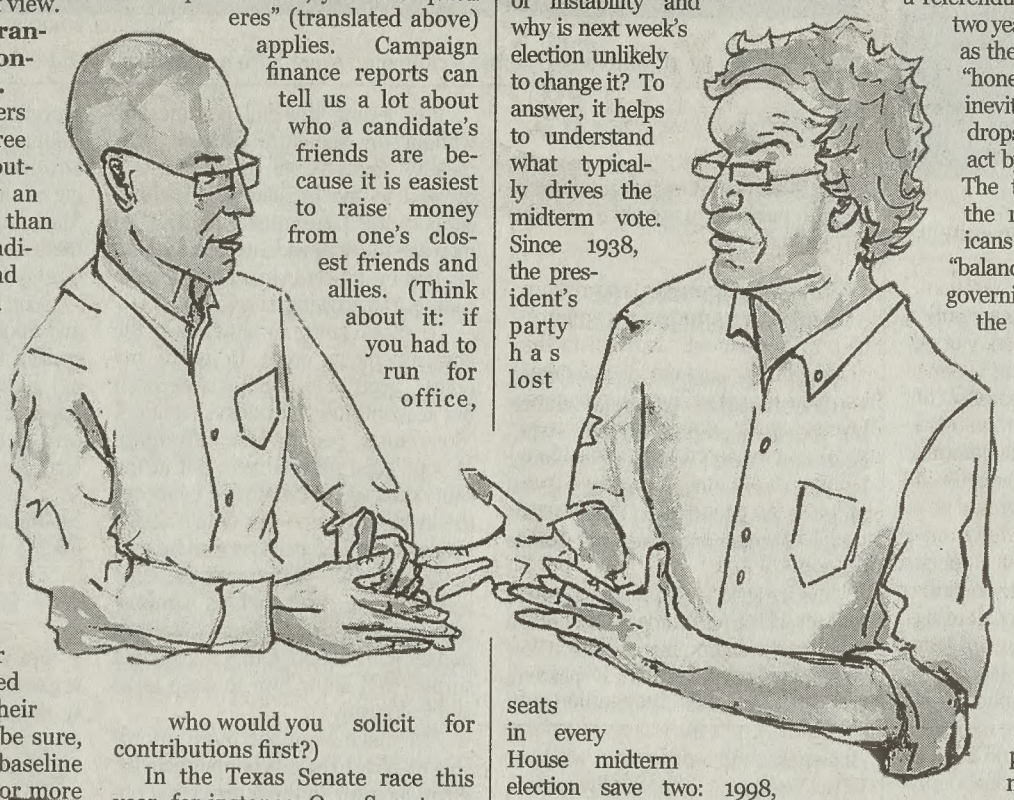
A close look at who gives money to which campaigns can easily lead to the conclusion that politicians are corrupt. Top campaign contributors to members of the House Agriculture Committee include agribusiness interests, for example. (See OpenSecrets.org) The fact that in 2018 the Agriculture Committee approved a farm bill that pleased many agricultural lobbyists may appear, therefore, to be evidence of a quid pro quo.

But consider other explanations of Congressional behavior. Take longtime Agriculture Committee member Frank Lucas (R-OK). Lucas gets contributions from agriculture interests, but he also represents Oklahoma's rural third district, where agriculture is a major employer. Furthermore, Lucas himself is a farmer with a degree in agricultural economics. Does he vote in favor of agriculture interests because of the contributions, because of his constituents, or because of his own background? It's tough to tell — and this difficulty applies in some way to most members of Congress. This is why political scientists have a tough time determining whether contributions affect Congressional votes.

A lesson for this year's races: It is implausible that in raising money now, politicians are making deals that will bind them later. Constituent interests — and their own preferences — will shape members' choices in the Congress to come.

Tell me who you walk with and I will tell you who you are.

Just because it is difficult to say that moneyed interests affect members' decisions does not mean that a candidate's contributor list conveys no information. On the contrary, the Spanish proverb "Dime con quién andas, y te diré quién eres" (translated above) applies. Campaign finance reports can tell us a lot about who a candidate's friends are because it is easiest to raise money from one's closest friends and allies. (Think about it: if you had to run for office, who would you solicit for contributions first?)



In the Texas Senate race this year, for instance, OpenSecrets reports that Ted Cruz has received over $100,000 from employees of Woodforest Financial Group, a bank holding company, while Beto O'Rourke has received nearly $300,000 from employees of the University of Texas. This information tells us who the candidates view as their friends, and in turn, says something about their perspective on government.

"The most expensive campaign ever."

Huey Long famously accused the Standard Oil Company of injecting "enough money to burn a wet mule" into Louisiana politics. What seemed like a lot of money then would seem a paltry sum now, as this year's Congressional races may cost a total of $5 billion — the most expensive midterm campaign ever.

But although it is true that the total cost of elections has more than doubled since 1998, even when accounting for inflation, the amount of spending on campaigns relative to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has not budged. Spending on campaign goods and services, like spending on other goods and services, grows proportionally with the size of the national economy.

In sum, money matters — just in a different way than many people think. An understanding of the "lifeblood of politics" will help us better grasp this election and its consequences for the future.

Bert Johnson is a professor of Political Science at Middlebury College.

"A Pattern of Instability"

By MATT DICKINSON

When it comes to partisan control of the presidency, House and Senate, we are experiencing a level of volatility not seen since the post-Civil War era more than a century ago. Of the eight possible configurations of majority party control, the country has cycled through six of them since the 2000 elections. If political science forecast models are to be believed, the upcoming 2018 midterm elections are likely to give us a seventh variation of this pattern, with Democrats winning a slim majority in the House while Republicans barely hold onto the Senate.

What explains this pattern of instability and why is next week's election unlikely to change it? To answer, it helps to understand what typically drives the midterm vote. Since 1938, the president's party has lost seats in every House midterm election save two: 1998, when Bill Clinton was in the midst of the Lewinsky impeachment, and 2002, the first midterm after the 9/11 terrorist attack. The average loss across all midterms during the last eight decades is 29 seats in the House and about 24 if we restrict the analysis to the president's first midterm. Barring an event of magnitude equivalent to impeachment or a terrorist attack, there is no reason to expect this prevailing pattern to change; if history holds, Democrats should gain enough seats to recapture the House, albeit by a slim majority. A similar loss pattern affects the Senate — on average since 1938, the president's party loses four seats during the midterm. However, there are more frequent exceptions when it comes to the Senate and, as I explain below, there is good reason to expect this year to pose an exception to the prevailing Senate seat loss pattern.

What explains the midterm loss phenomenon? Political scientists have developed three related explanations. The first is the "surge and decline" theory, which posits that, compared to a presidential election year, the midterm turnout is smaller and less likely to contain the independent voters who supported the president and his party two years earlier. A related explanation suggests that midterms often serve as a referendum on the president's first two years. From this perspective, as the newly-elected president's "honeymoon" with the voters inevitably erodes, his approval drops and midterm voters react by voting against his party. The third explanation is that the midterm provides Americans with an opportunity to "balance" control of our major governing institutions, by giving the presidential "out" party greater representation in Congress. Of these explanations, I believe that in this era of deeply-polarized and ideologically well-sorted parties, the balancing explanation carries the most weight. Simply put, the largely moderate, centrist public expresses little faith in either political class, including their elected representatives in Congress, to say nothing of the president, and reacts by making sure neither party has enough institutional control to enact its more extreme political agenda. That preference for divided control should work in Democrats' favor this fall.

So much for why Trump's Republicans are likely to lose seats in the House — how do we know how many? As with presidential elections, political scientists have developed forecast models that while simple in construction, have proved remarkably effective at predicting aggregate House and Senate seat changes. Typically, these models focus on "fundamentals" — how long the president's party has held on to the White House, how many seats the president's party has exposed, and some measure, such as the change in disposable income, of how voters are doing economically. Note that most of these variables are fixed in place long before the events that cable news pundits proclaim as "game changers" — Kavanaugh! Caravans! Pipe bombs! — have even occurred. Although the models differ somewhat regarding the variables utilized, all are predicting Democratic gains ranging from a low of 27 House seats to a high of 44, with a median gain of 30 — a number that sounds about right to me and which would give Democrats a modest House majority.

What of the Senate? Political scientists have constructed similar forecast models, premised on the same theories and using similar variables, but here the margin of uncertainty is much greater, since outcomes in Senate races are more likely to be influenced by state-specific factors, such as candidate quality. There is an additional complicating factor in this cycle, however: Democrats are defending 26 Senate seats, and 10 of those states voted for Trump in 2016. This is the most Senate seats ever defended by the "out" party, and it raises the question of whether the high number of Democrat Senate seats at risk will mitigate the Party's gains. Political scientists think it will — the models suggest a modest 1-2 Republican Senate seat pickup — enough to retain their slim majority.

If these predictions are correct we are in store for still another configuration of divided control of our governing institutions, which almost guarantees two more years of partisan bickering, legislative gridlock and deep dissatisfaction among voters. And if Democrats win the presidency in 2020, while retaining control of the House, and Republicans hold onto the Senate, the country will have cycled through every possible permutation of government control in only two decades. Contrary to the constant claim that Americans are hopelessly divided, it seems instead that they share a deep conviction that both major parties are out of step with their ideological and policy preferences, and that Americans trust neither party to govern for very long.

Matthew Dickinson is a professor of Political Science at Middlebury College.

Cartoon by Sadie Housberg.

From Middlebury to Midterms Organizing

By HANNAH BRISTOL and TEDDY SMYTH

Hannah: My sophomore year at Middlebury, I was sitting in Proctor thinking about the 2012 election. Growing up in Virginia, I had been involved in campaigns throughout high school, including the Obama campaign in 2008, but was involved in climate organizing in college and was feeling disillusioned by the political process and its ability to truly impact the things I cared about, like climate change. Then one of my friends said, "You know, none of the things you care about will pass if Mitt Romney is president. You have to fight for a candidate like Obama who we can push to be better on our issues." And that principle has really stuck with me. I took a semester off from college and moved to New Hampshire to organize for Obama and have continued fighting to elect candidates we can push and then pushing them to be better ever since.

Teddy: The first door I ever knocked on was because of Hannah. She wrangled some funding to bring a group of students to Derry, New Hampshire, where she organized in 2012. She filled up a van, far too early on a Saturday morning and we knocked on doors three days before Election Day in a 35 degree "wintery mix." All signs pointed towards a bad experience — instead, it was a ton of fun, made a difference and changed the trajectory of my life.

Hannah: Through these experiences with student organizing, we realized how powerful young people are when we mobilize and turn out. After college we started working for NextGen in New Hampshire turning out young people to vote in the presidential primary. We both worked for several campaigns since then before coming back to NextGen to turn out the #youthvote in the midterms this year, using the skills and building off of the relationships we had developed organizing on campus at Middlebury.

Teddy: Young people make up a third of the electorate, but because we vote at only half the rate of older Americans, politicians ignore our needs. If we all turned out to vote on Nov. 6, politicians would have to listen to us, and we would be able to hold them accountable. The last two years have been terrible, as so many communities are under attack. We need to vote on Tuesday (and volunteer to turn out other voters) to ensure our leaders listen to us and build the future we deserve.

Editor's note: Hannah Bristol '14.5 is national organizing director for NextGen America, and Teddy Smyth '15 is NextGen America's New Hampshire state director.

Reporting on 15 Elections: How Time Flies

By JOHN FLOWERS

My, how time flies.

The summer of 1990 seems like only yesterday. That's when I joined the Addison Independent and was promptly thrown into the deep end of the political pool during a very interesting election cycle.

The former mayor of Burlington, Progressive Bernie Sanders, was challenging incumbent U.S. Rep. Peter Smith (R-Vt).

These days, you need to negotiate with Bernie's handlers and squirm through crowds of supporters to get now-U.S. Sen. Sanders's attention for the shortest of interviews.

But back in 1990, in his first race for federal office, I got complete and unfettered access to the then-little-known (in Addison County) candidate as he looked for hands to shake at Middlebury's Forth 'N' Goal and on the town park. The same booming voice, windblown hair and ability to connect with folks. I never thought I'd be talking to him 26 years later about a run for president.

1990 was also the year when a lawyer named Peter Welch challenged the late Dick Snelling (R) for governor. Madeleine Kunin was stepping down, setting the stage for a classic showdown between a populist newcomer (Welch) and the closest thing Vermont has had to political royalty. My lasting recollections of that race will be Welch — now the state's lone congressman — stumping for votes outside of the former Ames (now TJ Maxx) store in The Centre shopping plaza in Middlebury, and then sitting down with Snelling for a one-on-one interview at Rosie's Restaurant.

As other old-time reporters will tell you, Snelling (who defeated Welch) brought his own tape recorder to interviews. He made a point of plopping it on the counter right next to you to serve notice: Misquote me at your own risk.

If you stick around long enough, you get to interview multiple generations of some political families. My lengthy list of interviewees includes Dick Snelling's wife Barbara and their son Mark, both of whom would run for lieutenant governor.

Through the years, there have been a lot of memorable one-on-ones.

Highlights include interviews with "rivals" Fred "Man with a Plan" Tuttle and Patrick Leahy in Granville's old one-room schoolhouse back in 1998. Tuttle had defeated Jack "there are six teats on a cow" McMullen in a GOP primary, after which Tuttle endorsed Leahy.

Speaking of Leahy, Vermont's senior U.S. senator graciously gave my family and I some time during a trip we made to the nation's capital in 1996. The senator, for around 10 years after that visit, would occasionally ask if we had a Washington bureau. I wish!

It doesn't seem possible, but I've covered 15 election cycles in Vermont, as state lawmakers and top administrators are on the ballot every two years. Twenty years ago, each of the county's nine seats in the Vermont House and its two seats in the state Senate were almost always contested. That's not the case these days; incumbents in two or three of the House districts often get free passes. And there have been elections during the last 10 years when there's been little or no competition for the county's two incumbent Democratic state senators.

The lack of election competition is in part due to more dual-income households, as families increasingly need two incomes to made a go of it in today's economy. But another major reason is that Addison County has changed its (majority) political colors from red to blue during the past two decades.

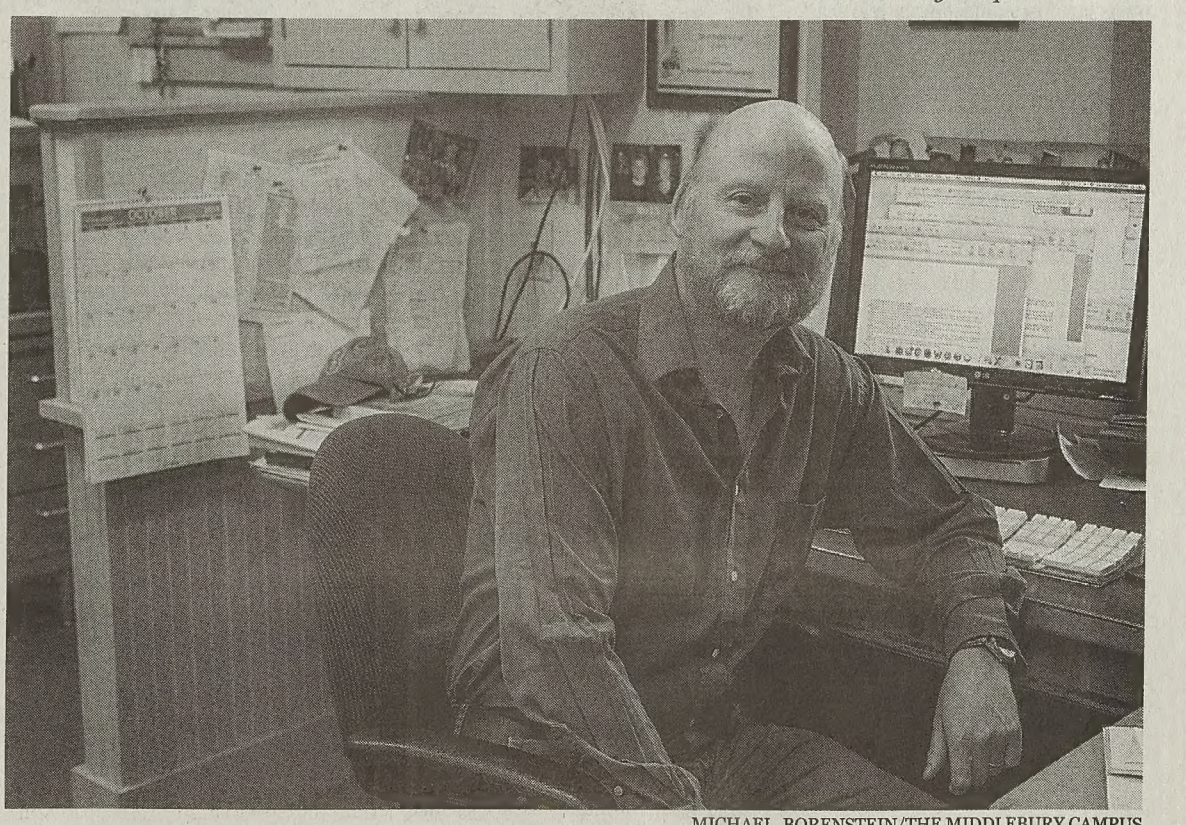
In 2000, the county's legislative delegation was overwhelmingly Republican. Today, Reps. Harvey Smith and Warren Van Wyck are our lone GOP representatives. Democrats have held both the county's Senate seats since 2002.

I must say that media colleagues in other states envy the access to state government that we get here in Vermont. Most state officials will share their cell phone number with you. When then-Gov. Howard Dean didn't have time to return my call during the business day, he gave me his land-line number, trusting that I wouldn't abuse the privilege. And I didn't.

I still get excited on election night, tabulating results and filling in our charts. This November's election offers some intriguing and exciting matchups — including a six-person race for Senate and a four-person race for the two seats representing Bristol, Monkton, Lincoln and Starksboro.

Please get out and vote!

John Flowers is a reporter for the Addison County Independent.



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

John Flowers, who has covered Vermont and Addison County politics since 1990, at his desk in the Independent's offices.

Gubernatorial Candidates on the Issues Facing Vermont

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Christine Hallquist (left) interviewed on a walk around the college campus.

Continued From Page A1

be sold across the globe via online retailers (she cites the popularity of Vermont maple syrup in Japan as a pioneering industry model). It could even lead to a rebirth of Vermont's rural communities, she said, many of which remain marginalized due to a lack of internet access.

The emphasis Hallquist places on fiber optic weaves through nearly everything she talks about. In her eyes, fiber optic applies to the range of challenges confronting Vermont: an aging population, a deficit of young people and economic stagnation. Regarding the dairy industry, Hallquist anticipates a looming transformation in the market. "Dairy is a world that's already shifted," she said. "We're producing 30 percent more milk than we did in the 1960s, yet people are consuming fewer dairy products."

Instead of wholesale milk, she envisions a move towards small-batch, boutique products like organic cheeses, labeled "GMO-Free" and "Made in Vermont" and sold across the world. "That's where the market is: the artisanal products," she said.

However, older dairy farmers, who make up the majority of the industry's demographic, have not had the most enthusiastic response. "Some are migrating, but it's like any other business; some people made buggy parts while cars were being sold," she said. "People have a hard time letting go."

Yet the state's infrastructure, including fiber optic networks, needs to be there, she said. And the government has the power to spearhead that. She's emphasized the need for new welfare programs, like Medicare for All — a sharp contrast to Scott's recent dodging of those sorts of initiatives. Scott's avoidance has manifested in a slew of vetoes in recent months, which have emerged as a frustration and talking point for Hallquist.

Still, she acknowledged that she supported his initial candidacy more than a year before she decided to run against him. "I voted for Phil Scott, but I think I truly represent the electorate of Vermont," she said. Despite Scott's shift to the center on some issues, like gun control and marijuana legalization, Hallquist now believes he has more in common with the national Republican Party than with most Vermonters. After all, Hillary Clinton beat Trump easily in Vermont, winning 56.7 percent of the vote to Trump's 29.3 percent. "He's just a wolf in sheep's clothing," she said of Scott.

Voters in Vermont are known for splitting their tickets on Election Day, pulling the lever for, say, a Democratic state senator but a Republican governor. "That's been the trend in the state for some time now," said Eric Davis, professor emeritus of Political Science at the college. "Half the people who didn't vote for Trump for president voted for Phil Scott."

In her first days in office, Hallquist says her number one priority would be to pass a raft of bills that Scott has vetoed in the last few months. Those bills would have enacted a minimum wage increase, paid family leave, the monitoring of toxic substances in toys and toxic pollution producer liability. Hallquist hopes to resurrect them all.

"When it comes to a living wage and Medicare for All, that's not a political issue — that's called being a civilized society," she said. "If your leader's not heading in that direction, you need to fire them and get someone who is."

Hallquist has followed Sen. Bernie Sanders' national trail in doggedly supporting a government-financed, single-payer system, where all Vermonters could receive healthcare coverage. Although Scott ultimately looks favorably upon Medicare for All, he is not sure the state's economy can withstand a single-payer system on its own.

Incarceration is another issue she feels passionately about. Hallquist contests that moving people out of prison is not only more humane but will also save money. Her goal is to cut the state's prison population in half. Last month, Vermont moved over 200 out-of-state inmates to a correctional facility in Mississippi in an effort to save money and deal with overcrowding. Each year, the state spends $73,000 per prisoner and there are currently 500 people behind bars.

The issue of mass incarceration, she said, is entangled in a bevy of other problems currently facing Vermont. Some prisoners battle alcohol and substance abuse, while others struggle with mental illness. Still others are forced to delay their release for the simple fact that they cannot find an affordable place to live.

Aside from Scott's policies, Hallquist is also vehemently critical of his leadership. She has often described his management style as one of "command-and-control," manifesting in "divisional leadership." Although she has no previous experience in politics, she says her supervision of the VEC allowed her to practice a collaborative form of leadership that she insists is more effective.

She said the way in which Scott "barks orders from Montpelier" needs to be changed. When asked how she planned to bring the leadership approach she established at VEC to the state capitol, she mused that she might remove the lock from her office door and turn the space into a conference room, something she did at the utility company.

Her campaign coffers — totaling $415,000 — are equally rooted in a cooperative effort. As reported to the Vermont Secretary of State's Office in mid-October, the bulk of her fundraising has come from small donations. Indeed, more than 3,000 contributions were in the amount of $100 or less. Though Scott's total contributions exceeded $500,000, only 1,100 came from donations of $100 or less, according to the same report.

"We've put all of our money into a ground game," Hallquist said. "We have over 300 volunteers in the field, 30 people on staff. And we probably make 10,000 to 12,000 phone calls a night."

Her old-fashioned campaign tactics — phone banking, door-knocking and postcard-writing — are similar to ones that Sanders spearheaded across the country during his 2016 presidential bid. And they have been used by a wave of other progressive candidates running for office this election season, including Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, the democratic socialist who pulled off a stunning primary upset against longtime Democratic congressman Joseph Crowley of New York City.

Though Hallquist's base of support is centered in Vermont, donations have poured in from across the country. Because of her status as the first transgender person to win a major party nomination, national media coverage spiked in the days following her primary win, with profiles in The New York Times and Washington Post. Sanders's media team in Washington estimated that more than 3,000 news stories were written on Hallquist globally after the primary, in which she won 48 percent of the vote.

Despite the historic nature of her candidacy and her status as a national role model for transgender youth, Hallquist believes that it is another difficult issue that college students should be paying more attention to: racism. "If there's anything we've learned in Vermont and nationally, it's that we have an underbelly of racism that's finally exposed itself to white people," she said. "People of color have known for a long time that this is a problem that hasn't been solved."

Hallquist's progressive platform and activism have also piqued the interest of Middlebury students. The student organization Sunday Night Environmental Group has held phone-banks for her campaign, and last month, the College Democrats hosted an event that featured a documentary made by Hallquist's son about her transition, accompanied by a Q&A discussion, though this was advertised as an explicitly apolitical event.

Regardless of the outcome on Nov. 6, Hallquist's candidacy will have had a profound impact on not only the LGBTQ community, but the state's Democratic Party. The legacy of her campaign in Vermont has transcended her status as the first transgender person nominated for governor. With her progressive agenda, she's pushed for the state's legislative reality to match the Green Mountain state's crunchy reputation.

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Governor Phil Scott interviewed before a campaign event here in the town of Middlebury.

Continued From Page A1

So, what does it mean for this moderate Republican to uphold these principles?

ADDRESSING THE "AFFORDABILITY CRISIS"

"From my perspective, everything we do is about the economy and changing the demographics of our state," Scott said. "That's where our challenge is: We're an aging state, the second oldest in the country and I believe that we'll be number one if we don't change our ways."

The struggle to retain young people and fill job opportunities is a concern many Vermonters share. With a low unemployment rate of 2.8 percent, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Scott's focus is on workforce challenges and addressing what he terms Vermont's "affordability crisis."

He emphasized figuring out what it takes to keep college-age students — like those at Middlebury College — in state, in order to "to take advantage of our great quality of life but also the opportunities that are here."

The students that Scott has spoken with, he said, described being drawn out of state by career opportunities, less expensive housing and general affordability.

"The good news," Scott said, "is that we have ... about 10,000 graduating every year so we have opportunity and we have jobs available and open — but we have to connect the two."

In his first term as governor, the legislature passed Scott's $35 million housing bond proposal, which was the largest investment Vermont has made toward affordable housing for the state's workforce. The sale of these "sustainability bonds" by the Vermont Housing Finance agency aimed to create more available and affordable homes for working families, according to a February 2018 press release. Given time, Scott believes, this sale will help to positively impact the state's economy.

MINIMUM WAGE

Unlike his opponent Hallquist, Scott does not believe in increasing the minimum wage. Scott has maintained throughout both of his campaigns, and his time in office, that the way to make Vermont more affordable is through keeping taxes and fees where they are.

"I would say you should travel from Brattleboro to Springfield to Bradford, to St. Johnsbury up in the Northeast Kingdom because that's all along the Connecticut River," Scott said, tracing an imaginary map of the state. "Right across from the Connecticut River is another state called New Hampshire that has a minimum wage of $7.25, that has no sales tax, that has no income tax, and no corporate tax."

Raising the minimum wage, Scott believes, would be placing Vermont companies along the border at the risk of not being able to compete with out-of-state business.

"I want people to make more money. I believe in supply and demand and capitalism," he said. "If they want to change the minimum wage so that we are on an even keel, and even playing field with everyone else, do it nationally."

TAXES AND FEES

Following his 2016 gubernatorial campaign, Scott made a pledge to not increase taxes or fees, including property tax rates. In his first term he worked to eliminate the social security income tax for low and middle-class households and avoided increasing fees for residential property owners. His logic: live within the state's means. He believes the 2018 budget surplus of $55 million made it "counterintuitive to raise taxes."

"I waited until after [the 2016 campaign], built the budget and then determined that we could live within our means," he said. Scott held the line on taxes and fees with just one exception, as the threat of a government shutdown this past summer forced his hand. He vetoed two proposed budgets that included increases in certain tax rates before eventually allowing the Fiscal Year 2019 budget to be adopted into law without his signature. Though Scott backed much of the package's other initiatives, some of which were his own proposals, he could not sign on to the increase in non-residential property tax-rates.

"I'm letting this bill become law without my signature because, ultimately," Scott wrote in a letter addressed to the legislature. "I cannot support the Legislature's decision to increase the statewide non-residential tax rate by 4.5-cents in a year we have a large, and growing, surplus.

"I wasn't going to shut down the government in order to prove my point," Scott said about his decision not to continue the budget standoff. "Sometimes people take advantage of your good naturedness, but at the same time we accomplished a lot over the last two years — we didn't raise a single tax or fee for the general fund."

While he has yet to make the same pledge so far, Scott said his administration will continue to build this year's budget with the hope that a sufficient surplus will allow him to keep taxes and fees steady.

"To make Vermont more affordable we have to have economic activity. We're focusing in those areas that obtain that," he said.

TAX AND REGULATE MARIJUANA

Adults at least 21 years of age are legally allowed to possess and grow marijuana in Vermont, thanks to a new law that went into effect in July of this year. The law, which received Scott's approval in January, permits individual use and possession with restrictions but does not allow for the purchase or sale of marijuana.

The institution of a tax and regulated marijuana market is another area where Scott and Hallquist disagree. Though ultimately Scott did not disagree with the possible value in implementing a commercial marijuana market, he does not believe Vermont is ready.

"I signed the legalization of marijuana. So it's not as though I'm philosophically opposed," he said. "I just think we need to do this right and we have an opportunity and an obligation to do it right."

Doing it right, he said, means first designing better ways to test impairment on highways and doing the work of more education and prevention in schools.

"Public safety from my standpoint is the highest obligation of any government," he said. "So let's do that, let's work together on that and then bring the tax and regulation system in."

HEALTH CARE

Following in former Gov. Peter Shumlin's footsteps, Scott aims to expand and improve health care options in the state through an all-payer model. Unlike the universal healthcare route supported by Hallquist, the all-payer system is designed to equalize prices so patients pay the same fee at a given hospital. With this model, he said, "we're looking to pay providers for the care of the patient holistically instead of the fee for service program."

He remains skeptical about the idea of a state single-payer approach, arguing that Vermont is not ready for such a system at the present moment. It took Shumlin five years after taking office to come up with a proposal for a single-payer model that, in the end, Scott recalled, was "not going to work for Vermont."

"I said I'm open minded. Just prove to me it can work, show me the plan, tell me who's going to pay for it, how much is it going to cost, basic things of that nature," Scott said.

Ultimately, though he professed keeping an open-mind, Scott posited that the single-payer method is too expensive and would put Vermont at risk in comparison to other states. "We're not an island," he said. He plans to continue to expand and improve the all-payer pilot program if re-elected, focusing investments on prevention, quality of care and long-term benefits for Vermonters.

OPIOIDS

Addressing the opioid epidemic falls under Scott's third principle of "protecting the vulnerable," and represents one of his priority initiatives. In a state where obituaries of those who lost their lives to addiction go viral nationwide, addressing this epidemic must be a priority for any governorship.

"We're taking action on a number of different fronts," Scott confirmed, underlining his Opioid Coordination Council (OCC) and initiatives to continue expanding and improving prevention, treatment facilities, transitional housing, recovery and enforcement. He highlighted the opening of another treatment facility in St. Albans, as well as the reduction of the treatment waiting list in Chittenden County from 700 to zero.

Scott offered praise for the Hub and Spoke model, which is the state's current framework for providing opioid addiction treatment with 9 large regional "hub" facilities and 75 "spoke" care settings focused on more long-term recovery. He described Vermont as "a leader in the country in regards to treatment and recovery," acknowledging the work left to be done.

PRISONS

For a governor who places utmost importance on protecting public safety, the issue of Vermont's overpopulated prisons has presented some strife for the Scott administration.

"We put forward a prison,corrections plan last year to the legislature and it wasn't well received," said Scott, referencing his proposal to increase Vermont's prison capacity. His plan entailed employing CoreCivic, a private prison company, to construct and lease a prison in Franklin County. Critics faulted Scott's proposal to work with a private prison corporation. The facility, which would be run by state employees, would create space for inmates who have been forced to out-of-state prisons.

Former Democratic Governor Howard Dean began the practice of exporting inmates, Scott said. Responding to criticism, Scott said his proposal was no more than a "mechanism for building the facility in a manner that we could afford."

"I left [the proposal] open when we developed it — we put it out there — but you know this is politics 101, D.C. type politics," Scott said. "I said from the beginning this is just a concept, a plan. If you want to build it with state resources, draw your own facility up, engage us!"

He underlined the fact, however, that his administration has reduced prison populations by about 50 people and pledged to go back to work on his plan if re-elected.

Bottom line, Scott said: "I would like to see us have an opportunity to have all of our offenders within state borders."

MERCHANTS' ROW RAIL BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION

On a local note, Scott is sympathetic to the concerns held by Middlebury residents in the face of the economic hardship posed by the rail bridge infrastructure project. While he offered words of support, he clarified that financial aid for the town was more complicated.

"There is a limited amount of money. A lot of our dollars are leveraged with federal funds and they don't allow for us to use their dollars to supplement," Scott said. What's more, he said, when resources are used to supplement losses in one community, "it takes infrastructure projects away from other communities."

FOLLOW THROUGH

"We haven't followed through with everything we needed to follow through with initially," Scott said, underscoring the brevity of his first term. "So I'm going to continue to be the person I am and do what I can to forward VT in a much different way."

Scott's open-mindedness, willingness to, as he describes, "work across the aisle" and "treat others with respect and civility" even when they disagree may set him apart favorably from many candidates nationwide in the era of party politics.

Now, more than ever, an inclination to work outside of party lines and compromise can be hard to come by. However, Scott's oft-repeated claims to bipartisanship hinge first on the ability of others - namely his opponents - to generate legislation and then prove to him that such proposals could work.

"Show me the plan, tell me who's going to pay for it, how much is it going to cost, basic things of that nature," he said. Given the state of his party support, if re-elected, it might require more than just a passive, though welcoming attitude — but some active creativity on the part of this moderate Republican to see his platform goals accomplished.

Six Vie for Two State Sen. Seats

Continued From Page A1

nities, and being leaders in our communities as people who do things for the growth of our communities," Audet said. "I felt that it would be good for the legislature to have some regular working folks — boots-on-the-ground kinds of folks."

Audet and Ralston are running together on what they have called a pro-business ticket, focusing particularly on the agricultural business prominent in Addison County. Ralston is a former two-term Democratic member of the Vermont House of Representatives.

The duo have pushed for creating business incentives and inducing bottom-up change instead of levying taxes. When it comes to environmental policies, for example, Ralston says they are generally in favor of lowering carbon fuel emissions, but opposed to a direct carbon tax.

"One of the issues that I have faced every time I speak to people is that they are afraid of Vermont becoming unaffordable," Audet said. "We need businesses to thrive to pay taxes. We need businesses to want to employ people. We need businesses to pay people well. That is another big hole of representation that we are finding."

Ralston cited high taxes as a culprit for the recent business closures in downtown Middlebury, pointing to high property taxes as a barrier for entry and operation.

"Many of the things that we would be promoting are not the big, sexy ideas," Ralston said. "They are the practical, affordable, simple steps that can be made without raising taxes, without dramatic changes."

Governor Scott's support for the independent ticket may well have disappointed Republican hopeful Peter Briggs, who has raised less money than any of the candidates except Flower.

In 2016, when Briggs ran against Ayer and Bray on an agricultural-focused message similar to Audet's and Ralston's, he won 21 percent of the votes, compared to Ayer's 31 percent and Bray's 27 percent. Briggs is running again with a platform that is against taxation, hardline carbon emissions reduction bills and gun control laws.

Audet and Ralston have clashed with Bray, the lone incumbent in the race. During the campaign, the independent ticket questioned Bray's agricultural and environmental policies, framing them as out of touch with the farming community.

Bray defended his track record, citing bills that he proposed which have provided farm subsidies, protected and maintained current use, and helped farmers integrate to greener options.

"Within two months of arriving, I started crafting legislation, which I have been for a decade, that is highly supportive of farmers," said Bray. "Bill after bill, program after program, and dollar after dollar, I have stepped up to support farmers to change their practices. Every large and medium farm in this state has received many, many thousands of dollars."

Bray also added that Blue Spruce Farms, which Audet owns, received millions of dollars worth of government support in the last decade. Citing this example, Bray pointed to the pragmatic flaws of the independents' policies, stating that subsidies and regulations must go together.

"There is a certain hypocrisy with accepting high levels of subsidies, from government and state, and then rejecting regulation that travels with it," he said. "It is environmental and economy that go hand in hand."

Bray's platform is centered on balancing the environment with business opportunities. For example, he pointed to the Farm to Plate program, which has created new work opportunities while increasing access to healthy local produce.

Bray also jabbed at Ralston, who previously served in the statehouse as a Democratic representative. "One of the opponents in the Senate race has a four year record already in the Vermont house," said Bray, referring to Ralston. "I would invite and encourage anyone who is considering candidates to carefully scrutinize that record, and look at what contributions that legislator made on issues that we are talking about today."

According to Sun Community News, Ralston himself sent a perplexing message to potential voters at a candidate forum held in Bristol on Oct. 17, seeming to encourage constituents to vote for Audet and Hardy.

"This campaign has been a bit of a Dickensian experience for me: The best of times, the worst of times," Ralston said. "I do believe it would be good for us to have fresh ideas... the best decision may be to send two women to Montpelier as our senators"

But, Ralston later elaborated that the message was not to annul his own ticket.

"We are trying to get elected, both Marie and I need to go to Montpelier. We need to go to Montpelier together. That is what I hope happens," Ralston said. "If that cannot happen, there needs to be a change and that means someone else of the six people has to go. In that moment, I thought, 'People should think about whether a good alternative is sending two women to Montpelier.'"

Despite differences, candidates coalesced around the importance of college students exerting their voting rights either in local elections or in elections back home.

"Middlebury College students, in particular, are here for four years and live here and it is your home. There are a lot of things that happen in the Vermont legislature that affect you while you are living in Vermont," Hardy said. "If I am elected, I really hope that Middlebury College students will come to the state house. I can help them make their voices heard."

Editor's Note: Ruth Hardy is the spouse of Prof. Jason Mittell, The Campus' academic advisor. Mittell plays no role in any editorial decisions made by the paper. Any questions may be directed to campus@middlebury.edu.

VAN BARTH/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Incumbent Democratic State Sen. Chris Bray (right) is seeking another term to represent Addison County.

Welch on the 2018 Election Cycle

Continued From Page A8

Gov. Phil Scott has expressed his continued opposition to legalizing its sale. While you're more involved with federal policies, do you have a stance on creating a taxed and regulated marijuana market within Vermont?

I favor legalization on a state level, but at the federal level I believe that we should respect the decisions the states make. It's fully legal in Colorado — I think at the federal level we should respect that and not be threatening federal prosecution.

Also at the federal level, we should pass legislation allowing for medical marijuana. That should be a national policy — I don't believe that the government should get between a doctor and a patient when it comes to prescribing a medication or something that will alleviate pain, like marijuana or any other substance that is appropriate. So I fundamentally believe that at the federal level we should respect states' decisions on marijuana, whatever their policy may be.

State Rep. Kiah Morris resigned in September after receiving continued racist harassment. What were your reactions to racism directed at Rep. Morris? Do you have any thoughts about how to combat this type of racism and foster a more diverse legislature in a very un-diverse state like Vermont?

I was appalled at what she had to suffer through. Kiah's a friend, she's been an outstanding legislator. Whoever was verbally attacking her was doing so on the basis of her race, and also at a time when her husband was having a significant medical issue, and it's just cruel and completely reprehensible.

Bottom line, I think we have to have tolerance and acceptance of everybody, regardless of what their race is or their sexual orientation. Vermont's been pretty good on this, but we have to be vigilant all the time. The kind of language that we're getting out of the Trump administration hurts, it doesn't help. I think in Vermont, each and every single one of us [should] do each and every thing we can to have an accepting, open, and respectful dialogue, totally unrelated to a person's race, gender, sexual orientation, religion. We're all Vermonters.

During this election cycle, there has been significant news coverage about voter suppression in various states including Georgia, where the state government recently stalled thousands of voter registrations. If Democrats take back the House, do you think that's an issue they should be focusing on?

I do. In a democracy we want to encourage people to vote, not discourage them from voting. We want to make it easier, not harder. It's very alarming to me that some of these states — unfortunately with the help of the Supreme Court, which undercut the protections of the Voting Rights Act — are trying to win elections by keeping people away from the polls, by doing everything they can to discourage them from voting, by making it more difficult for them to vote. I want to make certain that if we do get the majority we pass legislation that absolutely and effectively protects the right to vote. We should make it easier to vote.

Vermont's very good — same day voter registration, early voting. The more people that vote, the more people who have a stake in the democracy, the more they feel the election is legitimate, the better our chances of making progress are.

DOUGLAS TALKS PERSONAL POLITICS IN VERMONT

THE NATIONAL GUARD

Then-Governor Douglas (left) is presented with a gift by Lt. General Abdoulaye Fall, the chief of the defense staff in Senegal, in 2009.

Continued From Page A8

they've met two here!

And frankly, as a Republican running in a blue state I swim upstream, and personal contact gives people the opportunity to see that I don't have horns, I'm not necessarily affiliated with the national folks. That's of real value and that's why Republicans can succeed here.

When you or Gov. Scott is talking to a Democrat and trying to convince them to vote for you, how much of it is, "I'm a nice guy and I know you," versus, "My ideology is actually aligned with yours"?

I think character counts. I've had a lot of people over the years say to me, "I don't agree with you on this or that or anything, but you're honest, you're hard-working, you'll act in the best interests of the state, so I'm going to vote for you."

I was listening to some radio commentary this morning where people were wondering if there even is an election in Vermont this year, since it's so overpowered by the national scene. You've got the governor running for his first re-elect, a Democratic candidate with no experience who is not engaging as much as I might have anticipated. It's kind of a sleepy election, which is beneficial to an incumbent.

Beyond that, the latest poll I saw suggests that the governor's popularity among Democrats is higher than it is among Republicans, due to his actions on the gun bills. The buzz is, will his more conservative base turn out?

There's this phenomenon of deep blue states electing Republican governors, not only here but in places like Massachusetts and Maryland. I've seen some liberal commentators suggest that this is sort of shooting yourself in the foot if you're a liberal voter — if the point of politics is to elect people who want to implement the policies that you favor, why are you voting for conservatives?

They are Republicans, but I'm not sure I would label any of those three governors conservative. There's a Republican base in Vermont that's quite conservative and I had people in the party that didn't like me because I wasn't a hardliner. I tried to say, "Look at which Republicans have won in Vermont in the past half century or so. They're not all conservative."

Given the national context, do Republicans in blue states need to go even further than you did to separate themselves?

Maybe my answer will be a little inconsistent. Phil Scott said early on in 2016, "I don't like Donald Trump, I don't share his views and values, I'm not going to vote for him." The fellow who ran and won for Governor in New Hampshire, Chris Sununu, said, "I don't agree with him on a lot of things, he has personal qualities that I don't admire, but he's the nominee of our party and I will vote for him." Contrast that with my friend Kelly Ayotte, a former Senator from New Hampshire, who tried to parse a middle, on-the-fence course and she [lost in 2016]. So I think people appreciate honesty in this sense. Whatever your view is, state it, be consistent and people will respect that.

I had a similar albatross with George W. Bush, who got 39 percent here as opposed to Trump's 29 percent — still, he was not very popular. My pitch to Vermonters who tried to tie me to him was, "Vermonters know that I'll always do what's best for the state." If I'm aligned with President Bush, fine, if I'm not, fine. In 2004, my first re-election, while Dubya was on the ballot, my opponent tried to make the connection. He had these signs all over Chittenden County that said "Jim = George." When I first saw them I got nervous, and my pollster said, "Pfft, that's not going to make any difference." Moderates are just not going to buy this guilt-by-association. So on Election Night 2004 I was particularly happy that President Bush got more votes in Vermont than my opponent did.

Can I ask who you voted for in 2016?

Oh, I haven't told anyone. It's between me and God.

Fair enough. When you look at what's happening nationally, what differences do you observe between the Republican Party you joined as a young person and today's party?

It's not very satisfying. I've been to two national conventions, and it's a very conservative crowd compared to Republicans as a whole — it's the activists who take a week at their own expense to go to a national convention.

There's always been differences within the party, even in Vermont, but in the old days it was more positive. Even fairly recently, if you were for McCain or Romney or Dubya, there was some rough and tumble in the primaries but still a general sense that these were all decent people. But the Trump effect is unusual, and causing a lot of stress and tension.

Even here, there's been some increasing polarization, right?

Yes, I often say, "Things are better here than elsewhere, but not as good as they used to be." I half-jokingly say that we shouldn't have built interstate highways — now there are more legislators who commute. I stayed over in Montpelier during the week, and something about having dinner with colleagues, going to events in the evening, spending time with them, it makes it more difficult to bash them in debate the next day when the house is in session. Now, there's so many who commute that they don't build those relationships.

That's certainly true in Washington, where they fly in Tuesday morning and fly home Thursday night. [Congressman] Peter Welch said to me, "I don't even know all my fellow Democrats — just the ones on my committees." You just don't get to know them.

I wish I were more uplifting and optimistic, but I'm not sure how we get out of this. I've often wondered why things are the way they are now. Gerrymandering is one reason. And cable shows can't attract an audience unless they're provocative and edgy.

I tell a lot of folks, don't let this consume your life — do your job, read a book, take a walk, love your family, get on with your life and don't let it be overwhelmed by stressful national dialogue. It's not good for your health.

I'm in the minority, but I didn't watch a minute of the Kavanaugh hearings — I didn't watch a minute of the Clarence Thomas hearings in '91. Nothing I did was going to affect the outcome.

Experts on the Election

JOURNALIST SUE HALPERN ON ELECTION HACKING

By AMELIA POLLARD
Digital Director

How secure is U.S. voting, anyway? This debate has been ongoing since the 2016 presidential election, and at its forefront is Middlebury Scholar-in-Residence Sue Halpern. Halpern has been reporting on the question of election security since 2016 for publications like The New York Review of Books and The New Yorker. In recent months, She has written about a hacking conference in Las Vegas, a slew of divisive Facebook propaganda emanating from Russia and Breitbart and a contested gubernatorial race in Georgia that raised questions about the state's voting security.

Antiquated voting machines, lack of well-distributed government funding and GOP resistance to address Russian influence have prevented any national progress towards securitization in the last two years. Although she avoids speculation as to how vulnerable the country remains in this upcoming election, Halpern has doggedly worked to illuminate weaknesses in the election system and vulnerabilities in voter data.

In an interview with The Campus, Halpern discussed Russian tactics in election meddling, what the U.S. is (or rather, isn't) doing to counteract foreign influence and how Vermont stacks up in terms of its own voting security measures. Her responses were edited for flor and clarity.

What are Russia's different strategies in its hacking endeavors?

The kind of hacking that people were probably most aware of was divisive Facebook infiltration of propaganda. That was all produced in St. Petersburg at a place called the Internet Research Agency. They had people working 24 hours a day pretending to be Americans, tweeting and sending stuff out on Facebook in the U.S. And so that's a kind of psychological hack that was happening and continues to happen.

Then there was a second thing going on, and that was the actual hacking and stealing of emails and documents from various people, particularly Democrats. Some of [these documents] were leaked out strategically through WikiLeaks, particularly John Podesta's [Hillary Clinton's main campaign advisor] emails, to undermine the authority of both the Democratic Party and Hillary Clinton. They stole these documents from the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, which laid out the strategy that the Democrats were going to use in the states.

The third kind of hacking that happened was the hacking in which the GRU — an intelligence agency of Russia — had agents infiltrate at least 22 American states' voter registration databases as well as some private companies that oversee and manage American elections. And these three types of hacking were happening simultaneously from different parts of the Russian government.

Which strategy do you think can be the most acutely countered by the U.S.?

Well, none of them are going to be treated by the American government in the midterm elections. The American government is the Trump administration and Congress, which have absolutely no interest in solving or curbing any of this activity. Within some of the states, there have been efforts to create a more robust cybersecurity defense for their elections, but that is also somewhat problematic. Elections in this country are run through counties, which have a variable amount of money to spend on

COURTESY PHOTO

elections.

Obviously, there's a correlation between economic inequality and the quality of one's election security. Which is to say that poorer counties that don't have a lot of money to devote to elections tend to be using older, much more hackable machines. Those counties tend to be in communities that the Republicans, in particular, would like to see not vote. They tend to be Democratic. So, there's really no concerted effort on the part of the government to do anything about this.

Is there anything that's counteracting Russian meddling, then?

The hacks of our mind are on-going on social media, and are pretty unpreventable. We've got Facebook hiring 20,000 new fact-checkers, but it's a bit of a misnomer to call them fact-checkers. A lot of that very insidious divisiveness that we're seeing on social media will continue just because it's almost impossible to curb it. Then we've got the potential to harden our election system, but that requires both political will and a fairly significant infusion of cash, which itself requires political will, so it's an unlikely scenario at least right now.

Are you seeing a surge among academics and private hackers on the scene, of non-state actors taking initiative in helping the U.S. securitize their election system?

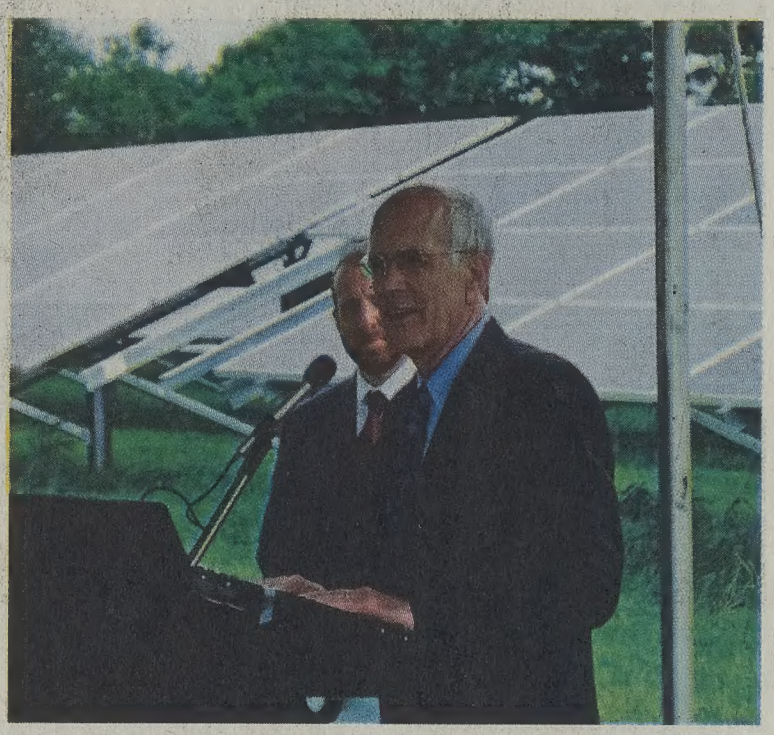
Academics, computer scientists and other election integrity advocates have been working very hard for many years. In the year 2000 the election was so highly contested — this was the one with the hanging chads and Bush v. Gore — and it was so destructive to our country that Congress was very clear that they wanted the election systems in this country to be updated. That's when they first passed HAVA (Help America Vote Act). But, as soon as those fancy new machines were being deployed, computer scientists started to examine them and try to determine how safe they were. So, these academics and lawyers and other interested parties had a tremendous effect, if not on changing particular ways of voting, then on what we know. They haven't just uncovered problems, they've made actual recommendations for how these problems could be overcome.

How has the HAVA fund of $380 million been distributed?

That money sounds like a lot, and it seems like the government is taking it seriously, but the thing about that money is that it was allocated in 2002 and is only just being released now, and very little of it is going to election machine security. The $380 million, which is allocated in a weird proportional way in each state, didn't provide any state enough money to entirely replace their machines with more robust ones. So, yes, that money went out there, but there was no rule for what that money had to be used for. If states and counties wanted to use it for putting better locks on the

Continued on Page A3

Rep. Welch on Politics Here and Nationwide



OFFICE OF REP. PETER WELCH

By ELLIE ANDERSON
Local Editor

Congressman Peter Welch, Vermont's sole representative in the U.S. House, has served in Congress since 2007. This week, he spoke with fellow Vermonter Ellie Anderson '19, a local editor for The Campus, about some of the salient issues heading into the midterm elections, both within Vermont and nationwide.

What would you say to college students who are not particularly motivated to vote in the upcoming midterm election? What issues do you believe are the most critical for college students to pay attention to and vote on?

The reason to vote is that it's all about your future. Do we want a future where diversity is respected? Where we attack climate change? Where we address this mountainous student debt that kids are graduating with? All these things are extraordinarily important. What kinds of opportunities are going to be there for you as students when you graduate? What kind of world are you going to live in?

Voting is about making a decision to participate in the effort to change the world for the better. There have been some really compelling [issues] where there's been great leadership by younger people — climate change is one, gun safety is another, respect for people regardless of their race, religion, creed, or sexual orientation is another. All of these causes are absolutely crucial to the future of our country, and young people have very much been the leadership up front. Voting is just a further way of expressing solidarity with others who want to have a better future.

The national administration is a concern for many Vermonters and Middlebury students right now, particularly because of the political divide that the nation is facing, which was illustrated by the bombs that were mailed to various "Trump critics" last week. What were your reactions to this threat? What can you do as Vermont's representative to address these concerns about this divide and the state of the national administration?

Politics is about trying to resolve differences in a peaceful way. The responsibility all of us have, starting with the president, is to have respect for people who we disagree with, to have respect for people who are different from us. That has to be the baseline, so no matter what my position is, or yours, we have to start out with mutual respect where I acknowledge the right that you have to take the position that you have, and reciprocally, you acknowledge my right to take that position.

What you're seeing is this winner-take-all approach to politics, where the person who one disagrees with is demonized. That makes it impossible for people to find ways to reach common ground. It's extremely dangerous to a democracy when there's a breakdown of basic rules of civility and mutual respect. I'm very alarmed by it at the national level.

Parkland shooting survivors and activists Emma Gonzalez, David Hogg and Alex Wind recently visited Burlington to speak about their new book and call for increased gun control. Were you able to attend? Where do you stand on Vermont's gun control legislation as far as the banning of bump stocks, expansion of background checks and increase of the minimum age requirement to purchase a gun? Where do you stand on gun regulation on a federal level?

I met with the Parkland kids when they came to Washington and they were very inspiring. They went through just an incredible tragedy and I was impressed with how focused they were in trying to improve our gun safety laws.

I was not there when they came to Vermont, but I did meet with them in Washington, and met in Vermont with young people who organized the March for Our Lives rally in Montpelier. Sen. Sanders and I were there, just listening to one student after another give an eloquent statement about the necessity for gun safety. So this is an issue that is extraordinarily important. Gun safety has been something we've resisted and young people are leading the charge. They know that schools have become the target of choice for shooters — we had a near miss in Vermont, in Fair Haven. I totally support the gun safety legislation that Vermont passed and Gov. Scott signed. We need gun safety legislation in Washington and I'll continue to fight for it.

You were outspoken in your opposition to Justice Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation to the Supreme Court. Student activists at Middlebury College have recently raised concerns about poor treatment of sexual assault cases and victims on our own campus, and a student last spring posted a list on Facebook naming alleged perpetrators of sexual assault. What are your thoughts about how institutions like the Supreme Court or Middlebury should approach sexual assault claims?

Well you know the colleges obviously are all working through that, but in Washington I'm working with Congresswoman Jackie Speier (D-CA) on legislation that would get rid of the so called "magic asterisk," where the student who is disciplined for sexual assault on one campus applies to another without the disclosure in the application that that person had a sexual assault violation.

Our legislation would require that that information be included in any transfer of transcript. So that's what I'm doing in Washington — I don't want people who have been convicted through the process at one school to be able to shed that from their record by simply applying to another school.

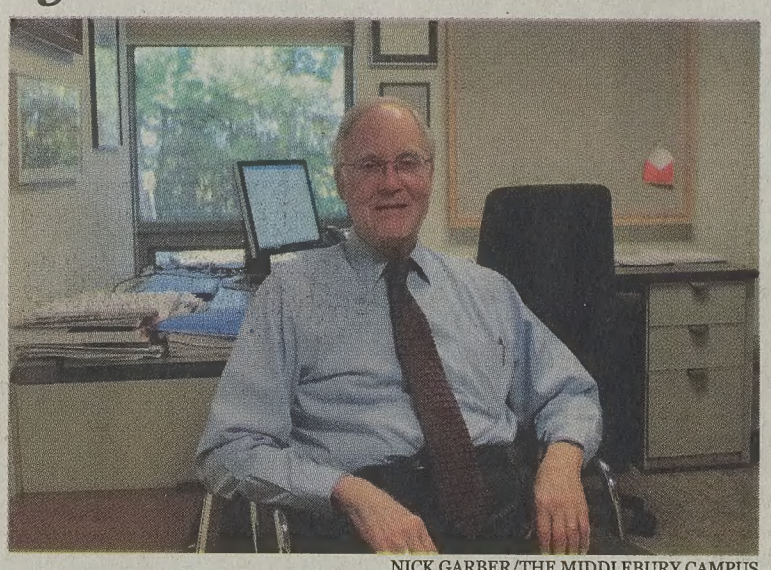
In the past you have supported the rights of individual states to make their own marijuana laws. While possession of marijuana was legalized in Vermont this year,

Continued on Page A7

Gov. Jim Douglas on the GOP in 2018

By NICK GARBER
Managing Editor

When Jim Douglas '72 published an autobiography in 2014, he gave it a subtitle: "A Republican Governor Leads America's Most Liberal State." Navigating those competing ideological demands has indeed been one of the central tasks of Douglas's long career in Vermont politics, which reached its pinnacle when he was elected Governor in 2002. Though Douglas retired following his second term in 2011 and became an executive in residence at the college, he remains active in state politics. Douglas spoke with Nick Garber '19, The Campus's managing editor, about what still distinguishes Vermont from other states, and what it means to be a Republican in the Age of Trump.



NICK GARBER/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Former Governor Jim Douglas, pictured in his office under Ross Dining Hall.

What kind of involvement have you had in this election cycle?

I haven't been that involved. I often encourage Republicans to not drag out folks from the past but to look to the future and involve people who are up and coming, not those of us who have come and gone.

How does the up-and-coming crowd compare with the come-and-gone crowd?

There's not a big bench in the Republican Party in Vermont. You may have heard about the experience that the party had in filling its statewide slate this year, where one fellow, Brooke Paige, won six nominations. It's tough. I was in the legislature when the majorities would move back and forth, but today it's overwhelming Democratic majorities. It's very unlikely that we'll send a Republican to Congress in the near future.

When you support Republican campaigns, how much of that support is based on your personal ties to the candidates, as opposed to your ideological agreement with them?

It's more the former. I write a number of letters to newspapers for candidates I know around the state. For someone I don't know, I can learn about the candidate and feel comfortable doing it, but the letters probably aren't as fervent. As time goes on, I'll know fewer people who are actively engaged in politics, and fewer people will know me and care about whether I'm supporting them or not.

When you speak with other former governors across the U.S., how do you think that compares to how politics operates in other states?

There's a couple of interesting examples. The Republican Governor of Nevada, who is term-limited, has not indicated support for the Republican candidate to succeed him. I think it's because the candidate has made it very clear that he plans to undo some of the things the incumbent has done. In Kansas, there's a former Republican governor whom I know who's endorsed the Democrat [Laura Kelly] in the campaign this year, and I've discussed it with him. His public statement was "I've known her forever and she's a good friend," but I think there was probably an ideological factor there as well. (Editor's note: the Republican nominee for Governor in Kansas is Kris Kobach, a right-wing conservative whose views on immigration and voting rights have alienated some moderates.)

Do you think that Vermont's style of "personal politics" is sustainable?

I think it's easier here than other places because of our size. Here, people can meet candidates for statewide office if they try, and sometimes even if they don't. So there's an opportunity to become personally acquainted with people, or at least have a sense of who they are based on personal interactions.

For the past few years I've taken a group of freshmen on a MiddView trip to the Statehouse and several times we've met with the current governor. Students who come from big metropolitan areas are shocked — they've never met the governor of their state and

Continued on Page A7

COLLEGE & LOCAL NEWS

MAX PADILLA/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Students show their solidarity for transgender students in front of Proctor Dining Hall.

Community Rallies for Trans Rights with Dancing, Speakers

By SARAH ASCH
Editor at Large

In the middle of the #WontBeErased rally on Friday, Alex Bacchus '21 invited the 200 attendees to dance. Lady Gaga played on the speaker as students and a few faculty, staff and community members danced together on Proctor Terrace to protest a memo from the Trump administration's Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Bacchus explained that part of the inspiration for incorporating a dance party into the protest came from the organization Werk for Peace, which was co-founded by several Middlebury alumni, including Firas Nasr '15.

"Dance is a non-violent expression that has so much power; it can even be used as a tool to heal," Bacchus said. "I wanted to include movement as a piece to today's rally because of its great versatility. The fight for trans and intersex rights has been an ongoing battle, and this week's news triggered a range of reactions: anger, hatred, frustration, sadness, fright, and I felt movement was an appropriate medium."

The leaked HHS memo, released on Oct. 21, detailed the department's plan to require government agencies to adopt a uniform definition of gender as determined by biological sex. This decision would revoke legal recognition and thus remove protections for transgender and intersex individuals, undoing several Obama-era policies that had widened the definition of gender.

In the wake of the memo's release, Queers and Allies (Q&A) and the Trans Affinity Group (TAG) co-organized Friday's rally to protest the threat of government erasure of transgender and intersex people. Ami Furgang '20, one of the co-presidents of Q&A, said they decided to center the event around transgender and nonbinary voices. Three students spoke at the rally, and members of Q&A read two anonymous submissions they had received prior to the event.

Leif Taranta '20.5 spoke about their personal experiences with their gender identity, and emphasized the interconnectedness of many different groups struggling against erasure.

"We must stand with together and support Indigenous people, women, people of color, refugees and immigrants, disabled people, poor people, and all other marginalized people," they said. "Trans people facing oppression on many fronts should be the central

Continued on Page B2

The Center Will Hold: Madeleine Kunin Reflects on Aging and Optimism in Politics

KENZO OKAZAKI
Staff Writer

The current midterm election cycle has seen record numbers of women running for office across the country. There may be few Vermonters more qualified to speak on that topic to Middlebury students than Madeleine Kunin, the first and to this day only female governor of Vermont.

Kunin, who was Vermont's governor from 1985 to 1991, visited the college last Tuesday to read from her second memoir, "Coming of Age: My Journey to the Eighties." Kunin was greeted by a room packed full of students and town residents alike.

Ruth Hardy, the executive director of Emerge Vermont and a Democratic candidate to represent Addison County in the Vermont Senate, introduced Kunin. Kunin founded Emerge Vermont, which trains and provides resources for female-identifying Democrats seeking public office. Holding back tears, Hardy recounted her time working with Kunin, with whom she celebrated success and recovered from failure.

Hardy remembered the joy she and Kunin felt at Hillary Clinton's success in winning the Democratic nomination for the presidency and their sadness at her loss four months later.

"As painful as it was for me, I knew the loss was far greater for Made-

VAN BARTH/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS
Madeleine Kunin speaks to students.

leine," said Hardy. "A woman in her forties has time to wait for the next big election, while a woman in her eighties may not."

The adversity that Kunin faced, however, has not dulled her impact in Vermont and beyond. As she concluded her introduction, Hardy's message was simple and perfectly conveyed the success of Kunin's work as a role model and advocate.

"Thank you for all that you have done for me and for women and girls across Vermont," Hardy said.

Indeed, Kunin's work to pave the way for women in politics is significant. Kunin was born in Zurich to Jewish parents and moved to the United States to escape the Nazis as a young girl. Hardy told the audience that as a mother, Kunin fretted for the safety of her young children as they crossed railroad tracks each morning to get to school. Her initiative to find a solution to this problem led her to politics. Kunin went on to serve as the first and only female governor of Vermont, and the only woman in the United States to serve three terms as governor. After her governorship, Kunin continued her work in government as the United States Deputy Secretary of Education and Ambassa-

Continued on Page B2

MAP PROJECT MARKS LOCATIONS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT ON CAMPUS

By BEN DOHAN
Senior Writer

Signs reading "go/mapproject" appeared across campus last week, advertising a link that leads to a form where respondents can identify where they have been sexually assaulted on campus.

The goal of the project is to visualize locations where sexual violence has occured on campus. It Happens Here (IHH) began the map project in 2012, placing a map with red dots paired with a selection of anonymous stories on display in the atrium of Davis Family Library.

Taite Shomo '20.5, one of the organizers of IHH, led the effort to revive the map project this year.

"The reason we decided to bring the map project back now is because of all of the student activism on campus, as well as the activism around the country about sexual assault," Shomo said. "I've also been looking for ways to make IHH larger than just a once-a-semester event, and this was one way to continue to raise awareness about sexual assault at Middlebury aside from the regular events."

The map project reflects the reality that sexual assault remains a major problem at Middlebury. This reality is what drove the protest that took place at the Pather Day parade against Middlebury's handling of sexual assault. One of the protestors at the Panther Day protest was holding the 2013 map.

"The map is powerful because it gives people a visual of how pervasive and prevalent sexual assault and harassment are on this campus," Shomo said. Recent campus security reports have recorded no more than 25 reported instances of sexual violence per year — a figure that IHH organizers believe is in fact much higher.

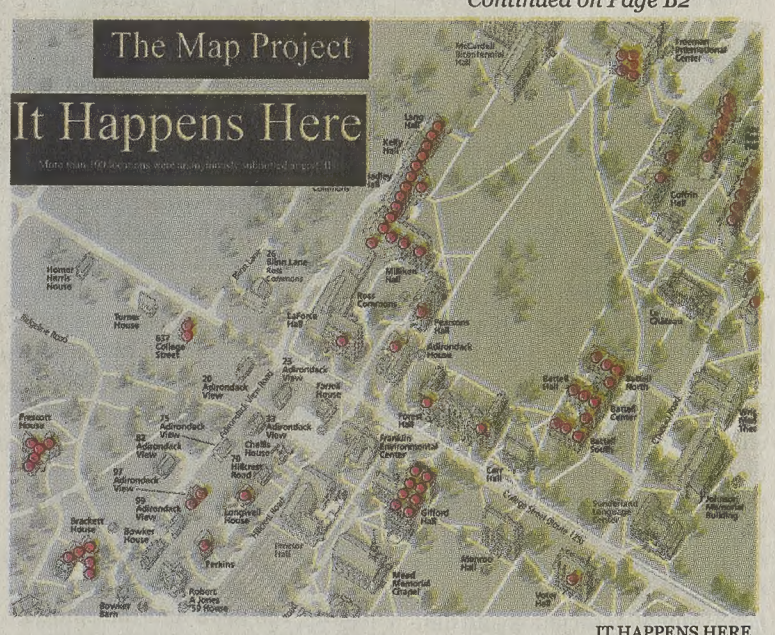
"The objective is to get people to consider how much of a reality assault and harassment are here," Shomo explained.

Annie Blalock '20.5, president of Feminist Action at Middlebury (FAM), echoed the same sentiment.

"There's that one story that you have in your head that you saw on the news, and then looking at a map like that, you think 'that's this one red dot here' and then you're like 'oh, there's hundreds of red dots, every one of those is a story like that," Blalock said.

Although she is not involved with organizing the map project, Blalock is

Continued on Page B2



IT HAPPENS HERE
The 2013 Map Project details sexual assault at locations on campus.

Donahue Leaves After Three Decades at Middlebury

By KENSHIN CHO
Local Editor

For 21 years, Dave Donahue has worked to bridge the town-gown divide. As chief of staff for President Patton and the director of community relations, he has been the college's voice in the local community, discussing construction projects at selectboard meetings, fielding questions from residents in town and leading community organizations.

On Nov. 2, he will step down from his role in the administration to take a position as senior vice president and chief of staff at the Ultimate Medical Academy in Tampa Bay, Florida. There, he will be working with a school largely based online and with a student population of 15,000, many of whom come from backgrounds vastly different from those of Middlebury students.

Donahue admitted that his decision to leave took other adminstrators by surprise, given his long tenure at the college. He began his life at Middlebury in 1987, playing football and lacrosse as a recruited athlete. An East Coast native, he fell in love with the idea of attending an academically rigorous school surrounded by Vermont's natural beauty.

After graduation, Donahue worked in consulting for five years at Accenture's government and educational division, flying from city to city on a weekly basis. But when his role moved him further away from education, he looked for a way back.

"I wanted to work with education systems. But I was pretty removed by that time," Donahue explained.

That's when he reached out to his alma mater. After speaking with Ann Hanson, the current dean of Ross Commons and the dean of student affairs at the time, he was convinced that he wanted to be at a school again. In the summer of 1997, he accepted a position as the assistant dean of students.

What began as a junior role in the student affairs office turned into a decade-long association with the college, moving across various administrative roles until settling into his current job ten years ago as the chief of staff for the president and director of community relations.

It was a tenure marked by community, both within the college and beyond. One of his earliest memories was of advising the inter-house council, a committee holding social houses responsible for infractions — a role that challenged the new administrator.

"I felt like I was drinking from the firehose back then," he said, laughing. "But I was fortunate to have Ann Hanson and Matt Longman who were really good men-

Continued on Page B2

Vermont Leads Nation in Voter Registration Rate, Topping 90%

By HATTIE LEFAVOUR
Contributing Writer

Less than a week away from the midterm elections, 481,111 Vermonters are registered to vote. In October, the state reached a record high, with 92.5 percent of its eligible voters registered for the upcoming election, according to VTDigger. Vermont now leads the national registration rate by about 20 percent.

Vermont has been making a concerted effort to expand its voter rolls since January 2017, when the state instituted a new system allowing for automatic voter registration when receiving or renewing an ID at the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Of the more than 30,000 new Vermonters who have registered to vote since that time, over 16,000 of them used the new system. With driver's licenses set to be renewed every four years, the state expects to see a continued uptick of registration throughout the next few election cycles.

"The goal is we're going to get as many eligible Vermonters as possible to be registered to vote," Vermont Secretary of State Jim Condos said in an interview with VTDigger.

Condos's efforts are coming to fruition. More than 7,000 new voters have also registered through the state's new online system, and flexible registration deadlines have also contributed to Vermont's leading rates. Vermonters are permitted to register any day up until and including Election Day, a privilege only granted in 14 other states. The state allows for early voting and absentee ballots upon request.

"It's just a way of making it easier for people to vote," Condos told VTDigger.

Vermont is also one of just two states, along with Maine, that does not restrict felon voting rights. These states not only protect felons' right to vote, but allow them to do so from behind bars via absentee ballots, according to NBC News.

It's because of these factors that the MIT Elections Performance Index, a nonpartisan, empirical evaluation of state elections, recently ranked Vermont's election management to be first in the nation.

Continued on Page B2

Financial Services Office Unpacks Aid in MiddWorks Session

By GIBSON GRIMM
Contributing Writer

Staff in the Student Financial Services Office explained the college's financial services in this year's second MiddWorks presentation on Oct. 25. Director of Financial Aid Operations Michael McLaughlin, Senior Associate Student Financial Services Director Michele Almeida and Loan Programs and Compliance Specialist Jane Aube led the presentation, which was intended to give students a better understanding of how aid works.

Student Financial Services oversees four main systems: financial aid, student billing, the college cashier and education loan financing. The discussion focused primarily on the financial aid component, given its relevance to the student body. McLaughlin emphasized the relevance of the session and of the Student Financial Services Office, an integral part of college operations.

"It touches every part of campus, every population," McLaughlin said.

When applying for financial aid, students must fill out two applications: the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which concerns federal financial assistance, and the College Scholarship Service (CSS), which is the institutional methodology that dictates Middlebury's financial aid.

The majority of financial aid is given out by the college itself. The average grant for an incoming student in the Class of 2022 was $49,000.

In determining how much aid a student will be granted, the office first calculates the expected family contribution (EFC). Both parental and student contributions are based on taxable income, with allowances made for things like child support, day-to-day medical costs, and daily expenses. It also considers assets like cash, savings, investment and real estate, with allowances for emergency reserve savings, education savings and low-income status.

The office also considers the number of siblings attending undergraduate institutions, which can affect the expected parent contribution. Student contributions, considered the "self-help" component, are largely made up of loans and work-study offers. This is considered with the idea that a student should share responsibility for the cost of their education.

The financial aid office then builds a budgeted cost of attendance for the student by first determining the total billed costs, like tuition, housing, meals and student activities, and the unbilled costs, such as supplies and travel. From this total cost, the EFC is subtracted. The resulting number becomes the calculated need for the individual student.

Scholarships are a common source of confusion in the financial aid process. McLaughlin explained that Middlebury does not offer merit awards because most students are academically qualified and admitted based on their merits. The office's goal is to allocate funds to those who

Continued on Page B2

Former Governor Recounts Feelings of Invisibility

Continued from Page B1

dor to Switzerland and Lichtenstein under the Clinton administration.

Kunin also hopes her memoir will tell a story beyond her political career. "You are caricatures almost in public life," she said. "You are either liberal or conservative, good or bad [...] I think at some level, even though I'm shy about bringing it out to the extent I did, I also want people to know what my life and thoughts were — that I was more than this flatlined public caricature of a woman."

The perspective is unique because Kunin is able to be more direct, noted Karin Hanta, Director of the Feminist Resource Center at Chellis House.

"She candidly reflects on aging through a gendered lens," Hanta said. "She no longer feels like her words are 'filtered through a fine meshed screen' because her public life no longer depends on public approval."

Kunin also read from her writings in poetry and prose, which described her experience growing old.

"I want to stay in the brilliance, [but] there is also sometimes a desire to retreat," Kunin said.

This sentiment was also reflected in her remarks on the importance of political engagement today.

"That is the most dangerous thing — that we get so depressed that we shut the doors and turn off the lights, and we can't afford to do that," Kunin said.

Hanta emphasized that Kunin served as a role model for people who identify as women asserting themselves in politics rather than fading into the background.

"In today's political climate, Governor Kunin's accounts of strength in the face of adversity — she was sometimes ridiculed and rendered invisible in her political life — inspire women to persevere in playing an active political role," said Hanta. "By addressing a topic that is not often talked about, she inspires women to have courage and speak their truth."

When asked about specific advice that she had for women in politics, Kunin responded first saying she was glad that someone had asked. She reflected on the fact that in the United States, progress for women in politics has been excruciatingly slow compared to other countries.

This year, however, she believes that things are changing. She expressed her pleasure with the outpouring of women running for office this year and believes that we actually have President Trump to thank for this.

"If you're not at the table, you're on the menu," Kunin said, articulating her belief that the most effective and tangible remedy for the problems women face in the world is running for office.

Such experiences of invisibility in politics are all too familiar to Kunin, who recalled her testimony during the confirmation of Justice Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court.

"It was all men, the whole Senate Judiciary Committee, and we knew they weren't listening to us," Kunin said.

She recounted how powerless it felt to look up at the dais and to know that she had no impact. In spite of the adversity and challenges that Kunin sees women facing today, she remains hopeful.

"Despite the dark times, I would urge you to continue to believe in democracy — the pendulum does swing," Kunin said.

Perhaps the dark times Kunin referenced reflect Yeats's prophetic line: "things fall apart; the centre cannot hold; mere anarchy is loosed upon the world." But Kunin concluded with a concise message of hope, elaborating that even in the hardest of circumstances, we must have hope and not give up on democracy.

"The centre will hold, but only if we are vigilant," she said.

Kunin's reading was made possible by The Vermont Book Shop and The Feminist Resource Center at Chellis House. College Democrats and Feminist Action at Middlebury also sponsored the event.

Editor's Note: Ruth Hardy is the spouse of Prof. Jason Mittell, The Campus' academic advisor. Mittell plays no role in any editorial decisions made by the paper. Any questions may be directed to campus@middlebury.edu.

MAX PADILLA/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Students rally in front of Proctor Hall.

STUDENTS HOLD PROTEST FOR TRANS RIGHTS

Continued from Page B1

focus of our movement."

Speakers at the rally also focused on what students can do to support transgender and intersex communities going forward. Lee Michael Garcia Jimenez '20, co-founder of TAG, spoke about their experience presenting a list of demands to the administration to improve the on-campus experience of transgender and nonbinary students.

"Demands were both long term and short term including creating a faculty position for managing queer and trans life on campus, creating a web-page describing the resources available to transgender members of the Middlebury College community and creating and implementing a plan to stop gendering public restrooms," they said in an interview with The Campus.

Garcia Jimenez said that one good way for students to get involved in supporting transgender, non-binary and intersex rights on campus is by advocating for more gender neutral restrooms.

Speakers also shared ways to donate money to help transgender and intersex people.

"There are a lot of movements nationwide that are campaigning for trans and intersex rights but limited by lack of funds," Bacchus said. "If you have the financial capacity, please donate to organizations fighting for trans and intersex rights and awareness."

Furgang named the Trans Lifeline and the Marsha P. Johnson Institute as two such organizations. They also pointed out that students and community members can donate directly to online fundraising campaigns set up by transgender or intersex individuals.

Lastly, multiple speakers mentioned how important it is for attendees to educate themselves on trans and intersex issues.

"Learn about our history, our diversity, our richness," Bacchus said. "There's more to it than trans man, trans woman and intersex individual. It's not our job to be educators when every day we wake up knowing we are rejected by society and we have to fight to live authentically."

Bacchus said that one step in the right direction would be for cisgender people to be better about asking what pronouns someone uses.

"I have a lot of friends who consistently misgender me, and I'm sure none of it is intentional or out of malintent, but it's painful and emotionally draining to have to experience being called 'he' so frequently," they said. "Cis people, when you meet someone for the first time, ask them their pronouns. Trans, gender non-conforming, non-binary and intersex people don't need to wear labels or pins or present themselves differently to receive the affirmation we deserve."

VOTER REGISTRATION MADE EASY IN VT

Continued from Page B1

It's a great feat to reach a higher percentage of eligible voters than any other state, but that doesn't necessarily mean that the state will see the nation's highest turnout rate on Nov. 6.

Despite Vermont's record registration numbers, how many of the state's automatically registered yet previously politically inactive citizens will actually go to the polls? The answer, according to Bert Johnson, professor of Political Science, is complicated. Although improved access to voting can only improve participation, he told The Campus, new voters are historically the least likely to turn out.

"Probably not all of them will, because without the habits in place to vote, you may not necessarily think to do it when Election Day comes," Johnson said.

It doesn't help that Vermont's midterm elections are not particularly competitive, Johnson noted. Despite nationwide efforts to mobilize voters, turnout usually correlates with the closeness of the election. In Vermont, there are no closely contested U.S. House or Senate seats. Sen. Bernie Sanders is functionally uncontested in retaining his position, and Rep. Peter Welch is expected to be re-elected as well. The race for governor is slightly more competitive, as political newcomer Democrat Christine Hallquist challenges Republican incumbent Phil Scott. However, polls still show Scott at a solid 14 points ahead, making his re-election the more likely outcome at this point.

At the college, however, efforts to get out the vote have extended beyond state lines. Many student organizations are working toward greater voter registration and absentee ballot access, including the College Democrats, College Republicans, the Student Government Association and Sunday Night Environmental Group, among others. Most dedicated to this cause, though, has been MiddVote, a student-led non-partisan group whose main goal is to register as many students as possible before Nov. 6 and to provide the tools, information and assistance to get students to the polls.

Center for Community Engagement Program Director Ashley Laux '06 has spearheaded MiddVote's efforts throughout the fall election season, emphasizing the need to establish habits of political engagement that she hopes will follow students throughout their lives.

"MiddVote's person-to-person, relationship-focused outreach has been very useful," Laux said. "While of course this year is important, my overarching goal is supporting democracy initiatives."

The group has also contributed to Vermont's new voter registration record by reminding students that they can register to vote in Vermont at any time regardless of their home state — a message they plan to continue to spread up until Nov. 6.

Donahue Heads to Florida

Continued from Page B1

tors to me."

Later as director of community relations, he facilitated the college's contributions to some of Middlebury's most ambitious and contentious projects, from the Cross Street Bridge construction to the relocation of the town offices. Along the way, his professional and personal circles broadened to encompass members of the local community. He became a trusted liaison, playing a vital role in strengthening the relationship between the town and the college.

"He's just one of these people with high integrity. We knew we could trust him, often as the main contact to the college," said Nick Artim, a member of the town selectboard who has worked with Donahue for the past nine years.

Still, his role has not come without challenges. Between 2013 and 2015, Donahue helped move forward a project to relocate the decrepit town offices from their site across Twilight Hall to their current location next to Ilsley public library. The college spent more than five million dollars on the plan, acquiring ownership of the land that once held the offices and building a public park on the property.

In town meetings and forums leading up to the construction, residents engaged in heated debates, as some protested the college's increasing reach into town and others griped at what they saw as an unnecessary expenditure. Even in the thick of these tensions, Donahue remained a professional arbitrator, always ready with a knowledgeable perspective and willing to have a conversation in his easy-going way.

"He's always been a top notch professional. We're gonna hate to see him leave, because he's been such a good person to work with," Artim said.

As for Donahue, whose Middlebury career centered around connecting the town and the college, he's proud to leave the community with a physical space to do just that.

"It's great to see to see the park get used in the summer for movies and music, and to see people just hang out, to see kids playing in it. It's a community asset," he said.

Even outside of his official capacity, Donahue has been proactively involved in the community, helping to launch the Maple Run in 2009 and, until recently, chairing the Addison County Chamber of Commerce. He has also served on the board of the Better Middlebury Partnership, volunteered on the Cornwall school board, and coached the high school lacrosse team.

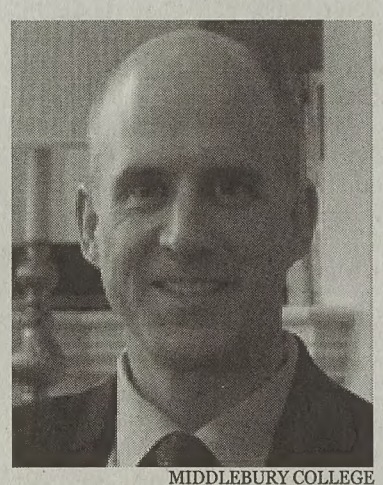
"I show up, and not show up representing the college's agenda necessarily, but show up and say, 'Hey, how do we make this place a better place to live, work, and play?'" he explained. "In the end, that's going to be good for the college."

Intentional or not, Donahue's presence around town has made him an effective and authentic spokesperson for the college. He has gone to great lengths to engage with residents, even those who see the college as a tax-evading, inconsiderate neighbor. He spoke of one particular encounter with a town resident.

"We sat down for coffee. I ended up coaching his daughter in a sport, we ended up spending time on the sidelines," he said. "And in the end, while he wishes the college would do more, I think he has come to a different understanding of what we do."

These conversations made him one of the most visible members of the Middlebury community. With his active involvement came the fear that his departure might leave a gap in the relationship between the college and the town. But Donahue is confident that the relationship he helped to build will only continue to strengthen.

"We're in a time now where there's a lot of people not named Dave Donahue who have an interest in town," he said. "Number one is Laurie Patton, who loves small town engagement, loves the dynamic of a small town, loves community organizations from the town hall theater to the Shelburne museum, to the Middlebury community center."



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

Dave Donahue

Town residents and leaders share the optimism, recognizing the role he played in bringing the two communities closer together and leaving them with a better relationship going forward.

"He had brought others in, even before he decided to leave," explained Rob Carter, president of the Addison County Chamber of Commerce. "It won't be Dave, and his particular personality, the knowledge he has from his experience at the college, but I think there's going to be a good handoff of responsibility."

As Donahue leaves the college, he wants students to share the love for community that he held. The college's responsibility to work for a better town extends beyond the administration — students, he said, must also learn about the lives people lead past the secluded hills of campus.

"I would challenge students, whether it's volunteering with an organization, or just maybe exploring with a friend five miles further down that road you've never been before," Donahue said.

This same appreciation for community that has helped him succeed at Middlebury is what has made his decision to leave that much harder. "The relationships I've built with the people here at the school but also in town," he said. "that's the part that I'm gonna miss."

It Happens Here Revives Map Project

Continued from Page B1

an enthusiastic supporter. IHH and FAM engage with many overlapping issues.

"There's an obvious tie between feminism and raising awareness of sexual assault and holding perpetrators accountable," Blalock said. "We are now living a culture where people who formerly were silenced by our society and the systems in place that silenced victims, are being given the space to speak out."

In the original map project, which was completed in early 2013, most submitted sexual assaults occurred in party hotspots such as Atwater, social houses, KDR and Palmer, as well as other residence halls, especially underclassmen dorms. However, sexual violence can happen anywhere, as victims reported incidents in both the McCullough Student Center and the Freeman International Center as well.

"I think it's an interesting perspective to gain," said Blalock, reflecting on the benefit of locating the the incidents of sexual violence on a map. "Walking through a place like Allen and being like, 'Someone was assaulted here.'"

According to Shomo, the map from this year will be formatted in the same manner as the previous map. However, Shomo added that organizers may need to make the map bigger because they are accepting reports of both sexual assault and harassment, whereas the 2013 map only dealt with sexual assaults.

"I would be surprised if we see any of the campus on the map, as opposed to it just being all red dots," Blalock said.

The go/mapproject survey contains two questions. The first asks in which residence halls respondents have experienced sexual assault or harassment. The second asks in which other buildings, including dining halls and academic buildings, respondents have experienced sexual assault or harassment.

"Filling out that form itself could be empowering for people because they feel involved," Blalock said.

She also believed that some people would still not feel comfortable submitting the form, although it is anonymous.

"Even with all the reports that this map project gets, it's not going to be the whole number of assaults or reports of harassment."

Between 2013 and 2015, some members of the college community were concerned that IHH's events and advertising were triggering to students. Others were worried that the map project would stigmatize certain buildings on campus, but Shomo was not concerned about this.

"I think that the maps will show that sexual violence happens in so many of the buildings on campus that I'm not concerned about it sending a message that assault only happens in some spaces," Shomo said.

In a 2013 Campus article on the map project, Luke Carrol-Brown '13 responded to the criticism that the project stigmatized certain locations on campus.

"The Map Project has never been about identifying danger zones on campus," he said. "That would stink of emphasizing victim responsibility instead of placing accountability where it should lie: in the hands of the individuals who perpetrate these crimes. The Map Project is about coming clean with a problem that so many of us deny or disregard, putting the human impact of this epidemic in visual form and driving empathy amongst survivors."

In January 2014, The Campus published an editorial titled "It Happens Here: It's Time to Evolve." In it, the editorial board argued that the map, IHH events and signs reading "It Happens Here" could be powerful triggers that hurt survivors, and urges them to adjust their strategies.

Student organizers of IHH published an op-ed in January 2015 addressing the conversation surrounding the potential triggering effect of their work. They acknowledged that though "these criticisms weigh heavily in our minds," "there must be spaces for survivors to share their stories if/when they're ready," and that "if we are to continue to hold these events, we will continue to need to advertise. In our minds, relegating survivors' experiences to the margins of this campus has never been and will never be an option.

"We raise consciousness that It Happens Here in the hope that one day, It won't."

Blalock was concerned about the lack of institutional support for survivors of sexual violence at Middlebury, but saw the Map Project as a resource for students.

"This is as much a tool for survivors and victims of assault or violence or harassment because it could be cathartic, it could be building that community, it could be feeling like a part of something or feeling not alone, but I think it's as much a resource for survivors and victims as it is for bystanders or people who have not had a situation like that," Blalock said. "One survivor is not alone, they are one of many people that have been victims of perpetrated violence."

The submission form will remain open until Nov. 16.

MiddWorks Sessions Continue

Continued from Page B1

need it the most. The financial aid office does not allow outside scholarships to replace the family contribution, but they will let them replace loans or work-study.

Another aspect of Student Financial Services is student billing, where the department uses third-party vendor Nelnet Campus Commerce to bill students the cost of their attendance. Families can choose either to pay one semester at a time, on a monthly payment plan, or through a multi-year pre-payment plan.

The college cashier also operates through student financial services and deals with student charges such as dorm fines and parking tickets, as well as the campus retail operations such as dining, the Snow Bowl and the box office.

Education loan financing deals with the different loans families may take out as part of their financial aid. The college also offers exit loan counseling sessions before students graduate. Aube said this helps students plan for the future as they manage their loans after college.

Foreign Correspondents: Yaoundé, Cameroon

Editor's note: Cameroon held national elections on Oct.7. On Oct. 17, students participating in the college's study abroad program in Yaoundé, Cameroon's capital, were flown to Morocco on short notice amid concerns that the threat of violence following the announcement of election results would shutter airports and trap students in the country. All students returned safely to Yaoundé on Oct. 26. Yaoundé has not been stricken by election violence that other parts of Cameroon have seen, and the step to extract the students was precautionary. In this piece, Emily Ray '20 reflects on this experience.

By EMILY RAY

As our taxi inched along, I watched all the students in their school uniforms, adults on their way to work and the countless Yaoundéens in the street, selling papayas, corrosols (my new favorite fruit), plantains, credit for telephone calls, fabric, tires and really anything you can imagine, and all I could feel was happiness. At 8 a.m., I arrived (surprisingly on time) and met up with my classmates for our étude de terrain or field trip, as if nothing had happened. We climbed into the bus with my professeur de géographie, and started off for the village of Okola, to walk around a cocoa plantation, talk to the Cameroonians working there, and of course, to suck on the sweet inside that envelopes the cocoa beans as we walked through the forest. The village was just a bit north of Yaoundé, the capital of Cameroon and the city of about three million people where I've been studying for more than two months now.

As we bumped around on the bus (you'd be hard pressed to find a street in Yaoundé without bumps and holes), it didn't feel like I had just gotten off a plane at 4:30 a.m. from Casablanca, Morocco. It didn't feel like I had just spent an entire week exploring Morocco, staying in Rabat and visiting the beautiful surrounding cities by train and bus. It didn't feel like the country of Cameroon, situated between West and Central Africa, had just elected the same president, Paul Biya, for the seventh time, after having lived under his power for 36 years. Middlebury's decision to send us to Morocco for a week felt like a dream. I understood the reasoning: the necessity to avoid possible election violence breaking out after the announcement of the results, which could have caused the airports to close and trap us inside the country.

COURTESY PHOTO

Fruit vendors on the streets of Yaoundé, where Emily Ray '20 is studying abroad this semester.

When I first came to Cameroon, I never expected to be asked by my host parents: "Et toi? Tu as vécu pendant combien de conditions présidentielles aux États-Unis?" which is French for the question: how many American presidents have served during your lifetime? The answer for me is four. The answer for my host siblings, even my 25-year-old sister, is one. In the month leading up to the election, you could see the evidence of Paul Biya's (and the state's) power everywhere in the streets. The posters of his face were everywhere, on billboards, the walls of stores and houses. His face was on t-shirts, dresses, hats, backpacks, umbrellas and more, which people received for free at organized meetings. There were eight other candidates, but they were hardly visible.

The week before the election, we were told not to discuss politics in the shared taxis (the main form of public transportation) and on the streets. There was a rumor that people were positioned in Yaoundé, trying to find secessionists and stop their voices from spreading throughout the city. The secessionist movement in the country is part of the Anglophone crisis, a long-running conflict that intensified in Cameroon in 2016 between English-speaking separatists and a national government dominated by French speakers. The police presence grew in various locations. There was another rumor that a series of random arrests was going on throughout the city. When we went out, we had to carry copies of our passports with us. The phone connection went in and out, making communication harder. However, no violence or anything of significance occurred in Yaoundé leading up to Oct. 7, the jour de vote. Walking through the streets, I could feel in so many people the hunger and readiness for a change of power. On election day, the streets were eerily calm, especially for Yaoundé, a city of bustling disorder. It was said that it would take two weeks for the Supreme Court to officially announce the election results, on Oct. 22.

COURTESY PHOTO

Emily Ray '20 (far left) with members of her Middlebury study abroad program and locals at a cocoa plantation in the village of Okola.

A week and three days after the election, the students of Middlebury's School in Cameroon were abruptly told that we would be leaving for Morocco (a North African country that speaks Arabic and French) for a week, with the possibility that we wouldn't be able to return. I was devastated. At the airport in Yaoundé, the program director told me, "Tu vas rentrer au Cameroun, Emily," or, "You're going to come back to Cameroon, Emily" and I took her words to heart. Luckily, she was right. We watched Paul Biya's smiling face from Rabat, Morocco, as it was announced that he had won 71 percent of the vote (but who really knows how much of the vote he won given that the government also falsely claimed that Transparency International watched over the election process, according to a statement on the organization's website). Following the results, there have been small incidences of violence in the Anglophone region, as well as a peaceful protest march in Douala, another major city, organized against fraud during the election.

It saddens me to imagine the future of Cameroon under the power of an 85-year-old president, who has failed to follow through on initiatives for his people in his 36 years of power. However, I know that this October's election awakened the spirit of many Cameroonians. I'm sad for my adopted country and its questionable democracy, but I'm also a little bit hopeful. Now that I'm back, I just get to appreciate everything in Cameroon: my host family, my classmates, the markets, the rainy season and all the adventures, a little bit more.

Emily Ray is a member of the Middlebury College class of 2020.

The Lookbook: Huaraches

By CLARK LEWIS

This past week I bought a pair of "University Red" Nike Huaraches. I was excited about this athleisure purchase because the color of the shoes is super vibrant and a great statement piece to my outfits. I wanted to stand out and even though Nike Huaraches are a very typical shoe, the color is not. In addition, I also saved about $40 on my purchase by ordering the shoes in a kids size instead of adult. Shop smarter.

Anyone who knows me, or has seen me around, knows that I can often be spotted marching up and down the hills of campus in heels or booties. So, how did a pair of sneakers end up in my online shopping cart? Something that I always admired about Nike was their branding. Beyond the quality of shoes, I was always interested in the image the company has historically perpetuated.

As a Black American woman, I have been drawn to Nike's commitment to advertise and market to a diverse consumer base. Nike has been in the news recently for its campaign featuring Colin Kaepernick and Serena Williams. Companies that stand up for social justice and inclusivity are ones that I have always tried to support as a consumer. I love when I scroll on Instagram or read online about the latest company to clap-back at injustice or feature a model with whom I can actually identify.

However, a conversation I recently had with a friend challenged my thinking and made me want to investigate further. Capitalizing on individuals' desires to feel included and respected in society has manifested itself into very clever marketing. I find that the latest trend in fashion is that of social justice.

Advertisements featuring physical diversity in models, sponsorships with social activists and wittily worded social media posts are everywhere. As movements focused on immigration, gay rights, black lives, sexual violence and beauty norms have come to the forefronts of conversation, they've also come to that of retail stores. After recognizing that minority groups have sufficient purchasing power, companies specifically target these communities to market their products and incorporate them into their customer base.

As a result, I have begun to wonder what, other than marketing, these companies do to contribute to the communities they are appealing to. Nike has recently come under scrutiny for advertising support for the black community while historically contributing to conservative political campaigns. Whenever a social or political event in our nation makes the news headlines, many companies will demonstrate public support. However, this support often fades away with the next news cycle. I worry that inclusivity is often not driven by the morality of companies but by capitalistic incentives to sell to untapped but lucrative demographics instead. I find that many companies will jump on the bandwagon of fighting the good fight publicly but don't always contribute beyond the marketing campaigns.

Many individuals, like myself, will become loyal to brands that speak to them stylistically and personally. The brand has become a huge part of the decision making process when purchasing a new item.

Recognizing that it's rare to find a company that actually puts its money where its campaigns are, I've started to challenge myself to think beyond the advertising and do more research about where I spend my money.

Clark Lewis is a member of the Middlebury College class of 2019.

COURTESY PHOTO

In Response to "Stanger and Callanan..."

By KEMI FUENTES-GEORGE

Editor's Note: This piece is a response to remarks made by Political Science Professors Allison Stanger and Keegan Callanan in the Oct. 25 article "Stanger and Callanan Talk Murray at Princeton," which ran in last week's issue of The Campus. Kemi Fuentes-George is an associate professor of Political Science at the college.

Dear Campus Editorial Staff,

As a faculty member, I would like to respond to some mischaracterizations of campus life, and faculty relations in particular, that I noticed in last week's Campus story on the talk Professors Allison Stanger and Keegan Callanan gave at Princeton University last month. I have worked with and/or am friends with colleagues in several departments/programs, including (but not limited to): Economics, ENAM, Biology, Film and Media Studies, Chemistry, Computer Science, Environmental Studies, GSFS, Sociology/Anthropology, Religion, Writing and Rhetoric, IGST, Spanish/Portuguese and Dance. The most cursory, but fair minded, glance at the faculty body will show that we are not, in fact, "ideologically homogeneous," in sharp contrast to statements in the recent article "Stanger and Callanan Talk Murray at Princeton." Attending even one faculty meeting should make that clear. We run the ideological gamut in my department as much as in the body as a whole. Second, as frustrated as we all sometimes get with the fact that there are (sometimes sharp) political, theoretical and intellectual disagreements within the body, we overwhelmingly do not dismiss each other's scholarship as intellectually fraudulent, as that would be contrary to the goal of modesty with respect to our own intellectual powers and opinions as well as openness to considering contrary views.

Signed,

Kemi Fuentes-George

Coming Together: A Charles Murray Reflection

By PEDRO MIRANDA

I spent the summer with AEI.

But it's not what you think.

During my time at school I have considered myself a moderate, reluctant to embrace the term "liberal" due to the meaning of the term on Middlebury's campus.

That all changed this summer. I had the opportunity to attend a seminar taught by Dr. Charles Murray and hosted by the American Enterprise Institute (AEI). The students who attended were interviewed and selected by AEI to participate in seminar-style discussions. Students from Whitworth University in Wisconsin, Yale University and King's College in London, among others, were selected to participate in the program. Survey results shown to us by AEI illustrated that the composition of the ideological views were roughly two-thirds conservative and one-third liberal.

Why did I pursue this seemingly hostile opportunity, especially as a Middlebury student? The Murray incident led me to believe that there was another side to the debate, containing ideas that I would never encounter at Middlebury.

The course was provocatively titled "Staying Calm in Unsafe Spaces" and tackled controversial issues, from the infamous Bell Curve race and IQ argument to whether women should work due to their biology. To summarize the course, Murray says that social policy has been based on the premise of equal opportunity since the 1960s, but in reality, it is more pragmatic to focus on and formulate policy based on human differences such as race, gender and genes.

Here are some of the things that I heard from my classmates and from Murray in discussion during the sessions:

"Islamification is destroying the West."

"Diversity is not conducive to a civil society."

"Multiculturalism doesn't work."

"There is nothing you can do about IQ."

"We should create a dual economy due to biological differences between men and women."

These statements made me very uncomfortable. As a result of my discomfort, I was able to figure out what my values are and ultimately how to articulate and defend them. Through debate and introspection, I embraced concrete values that I am proud of. Here at Middlebury, valuing diversity is never challenged. Growing up in a multicultural environment, I knew I valued diversity, but until someone challenged this belief and told me that diversity is incompatible with the West, I never knew why I value diversity. I had to defend my values, and in doing so I gained a better understanding of what they are and why I believe in them. Although the seminar's environment was tense and at some points uneasy, people were not going after their classmates, but rather their ideas.

As many of you know, in March 2017, Murray attempted to speak on Middlebury's campus, but faced protests. More than a year has passed, so why am I compelled to speak up and pour salt in this wound?

John Stuart Mill states that "both teachers and learners go to sleep at their post, as soon as there is no enemy in the field." I want Middlebury to make me feel uncomfortable and challenge my values. In high school, I participated in a program where we had the opportunity as a community to have weekly discussions on issues from the ethics of being a student to racism in school. These community meetings, although boring at times for a 15-year-old, marked the beginning of my intellectual career and were a driver of my decision to apply to Middlebury. They were a testing ground of ideas in a way that I thought Middlebury could replicate.

During my first visit to Middlebury, I sat in on a political science class that was based on open debate. Like in the AEI seminar, people were not going after their fellow classmates, but rather their fellow classmates' ideas. It was a beautiful sight: many engaging individuals, from different backgrounds, speaking freely and growing from each other.

I am lucky to have heard Murray speak and feel more intelligent and passionate about my political views because of it. We as a community need to determine if we are living up to our duties as students on this campus. We are only cheating ourselves when we do not engage with one another. The answer is not more town halls or working groups, but more honest conversations in our dorms, our classrooms, and our dining halls with students outside our traditional social groups. I write this piece not to criticize Middlebury, but to encourage the respect for conflicting ideas and open debate that I know rests within the student body.

Pedro Miranda is a member of the Middlebury College class of 2019.5.

Correction:

NEWS

An article last week on Page 1, "Students Lead Charge to Ban Crisis Pregnancy Center from Campus," wrongly said that students and faculty were circulating a petition. The effort is entirely student-run. The article also mistated the founders of the petition. They are Toria Isquith '19 and Kelsie Hoppes '18.5.

Melting Art in a Melting World: Minimum Monument

By HATTIE LeFAVOUR
Contributing Writer

"You are part of the performance," artist Néle Azevedo told the crowd of students, professors, community members, children and a few dogs that gathered at the base of the Davis Library steps last Tuesday evening.

At the center of the crowd were two large freezers holding 400 eight-inch-tall figurines of men and women made of ice, the centerpieces of Azevedo's renowned installment titled, "Minimum Monument: Art as Emergency."

The piece, which involves ceremoniously "sitting" all of the figurines in line to then watch them gradually melt, is an environmentally-conscious performance event that serves as a visual metaphor for climate change.

Azevedo handed the first figurine to a little girl, commencing the display before crowds swarmed the artist and her team in order to take part. When first placed, the figurines held a crisp ghostly frost, sitting firmly on the steps where they were positioned. Once they began to melt, however, they slowly turned transparent and thinned ominously in unison. It was for this reason that Azevedo chose ice as her medium, describing it as poetic material for the installment.

Each figurine is made using a mold, after which Azevedo and her team hand-file and chip away at the ice to get the perfect shape. She described the process as grounding and meditative, emphasizing the importance of working with volunteers and members of the community that the piece is taking place in. It is this process that gives each figure an unmistakable human presence, making the piece both eerie and powerful as the frosty, featureless figures sit with their heads bent to watch the melted water slowly drip from their toes.

Azevedo uses this facelessness to emphasize the unity of man, claiming, "I celebrate the anonymous figure" rather than any singularly powerful person. This is why the piece presents many small figures instead of one large one, she continued.

"I conceived this work subverting the characteristics of the official monuments," she said. "It is an anti-monument."

Azevedo was invited to make her U.S. "Minimum Monument" debut by University of Vermont Professor Maria Woolson, who hosted the exhibit's first showing on the school's campus before coming to Middlebury. Prior to the Vermont installments, however, the monument had made a global name for itself. Azevedo has brought her art to countries throughout Europe, Asia and South America and frequently showcases the ice sculptures in Brazil, her home country. The largest was a display of approximately 5,000 figurines in Birmingham, UK in 2014.

Azevedo applied a broader context to her art by addressing the crowds about the threats facing the Amazon rainforest in her home country of Brazil.

Although the installation's message is widely interpreted as a metaphor for the broad topic of climate change, the piece is meant to be somewhat interpretive, and it is not the first time "Minimum Monument" has been used as commentary on specific events.

Once, at a performance in Italy, it coincidentally took place in the midst of a protest on school privatization and was thus interpreted by the crowd as a metaphor for the children within Italy's education system.

Again, though more intentionally this time, the piece was used in Brazil to protest plans for a construction of a dam that would uproot indigenous people from their homes. It was there that the monument took on its most blunt message as Azevedo molded one solitary female figurine out of her own blood to melt among the water. It was not until 2009 that the piece became distinctly known for its message on climate change, though Azevedo believes this interpretation to be paramount.

"Words are not enough," said Azevedo on climate change.

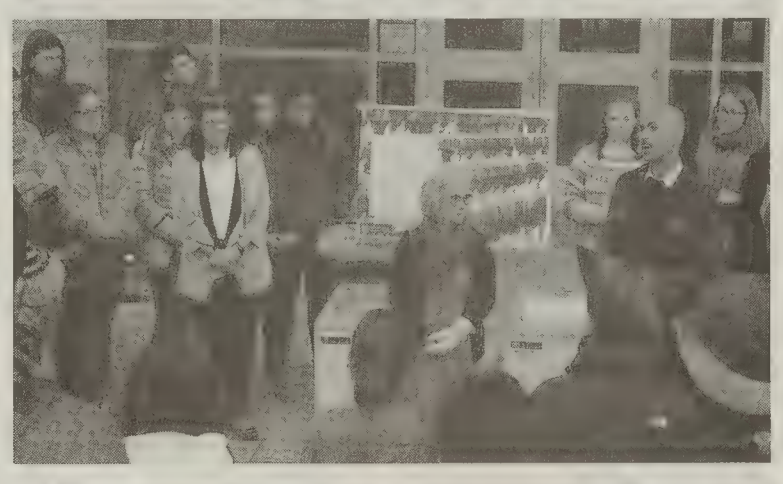
Although the "Minimum Monument's" figurines typically take 40 minutes to melt after they're set up, the sunless mid-40s Vermont afternoon was not so obliging. The piece was still vaguely visible about four hours later on the Davis steps, though this became a part of its power.

Like climate change, the piece does not always present a clear and blatant progression. Instead, it gradually transformed over time.

The change was even more pronounced hours later as the melting and broken figures glowed in the fading twilight.

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN & JOHN SCHURER/ THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Much like the ice sculptures featured in the installation, Néle Azevedo's "Minimum Monument" has transformed over time.



Reflections From The Curator of 'Let's Celebrate Resilience'

By BASIA OSBORNE
Contributing Writer

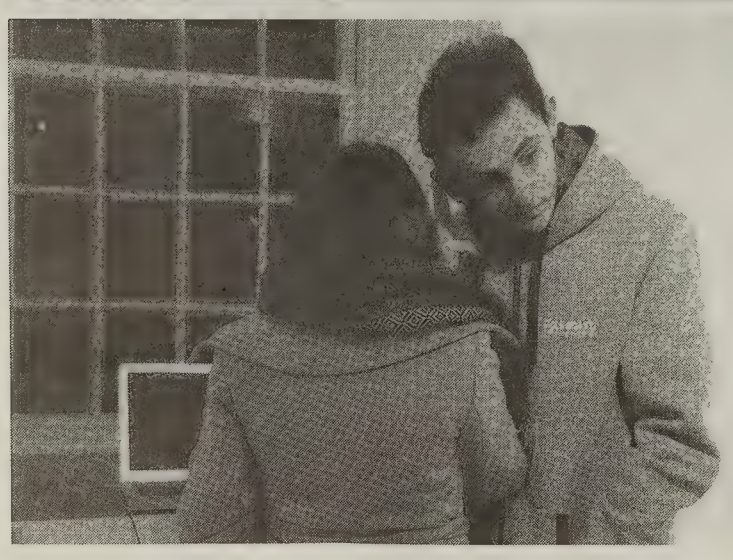
In January of this year, I founded a group called Brave and Believed which is comprised of students who openly denounce sexual violence through social media outlets and blog posts. Our collective practice begins with actively observing and critically analyzing what we believe to be the societal structure that produces and permits sexual violence, or rape culture. It is important to Brave and Believed that our readership understands the importance of uniting our respective communities in order to continue supporting survivors of all genders and sexualities.

On Thursday, Oct. 25, Brave and Believed hosted an event in M Gallery called "Let's Celebrate Resilience." The theme of this event was to celebrate the resilience of the survivor. Historically, accounts of sexual violence have been both questioned and silenced. This has led to underreporting and feelings of guilt and shame for survivors. The intent behind this event was to continue to spread awareness about this public health issue as well as soak in the "power" of the survivor.

Too often, when we talk about sexual violence on campus, it feels like something heavy is sitting in the room — feelings of discomfort, sympathy and empathy among many things — that leaves individuals either stoic, highly reactionary or neutral as they process the information being presented to them.

For this event, I aimed to make it interactive and engaging as guests actively traversed the space. It is important to me that those who attended the event walked away with the impression that although the stories conveyed can be disheartening, that doesn't take away from the strength that a survivor has and demonstrates every single day. This event had everything from audio recordings to paintings, all of which illustrated that regardless of what happened to the survivor, they continue to push forward and persevere. Like I have been saying and will continue to say, survivors are some of the strongest individuals that I know — and that is definitely something worth shedding light on and celebrating.

Editor's note: Arts & Academics Editor April Qian participated in organizing the event. She played no role in reporting.



COURTESY PHOTOS
At M Gallery in town, students gather for the multimedia exhibition "Celebrate Resilience" that features drawings, writings and andio recordings.

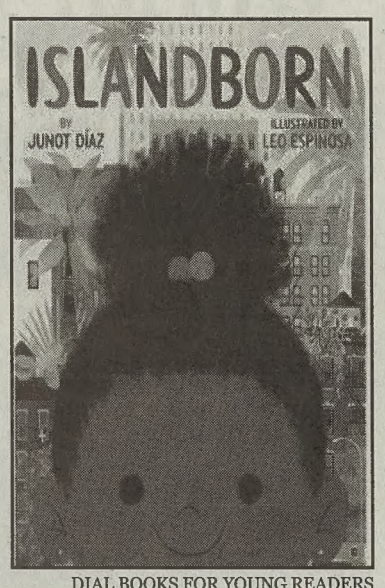
The Librarian Is In: "Islandborn" by Junot Díaz, illustrated by Leo Espinosa, 2018

By KATRINA SPENCER
Senior Columnist

Literatures & Cultures Librarian Katrina Spencer is liaison to the Anderson Freeman Center, the Arabic Department, the Comparative Literature Program, the Gender, Sexuality & Feminist Studies (GSFS) Program, the Language Schools, the Linguistics Program and the Department of Spanish and Portuguese.

Trigger Warning: Many artists who have been accused of sexual assault and sexual impropriety will be referenced in this review. For campus resources surrounding sexual assault, visit go.middlebury.edu/sexualviolenceinfo. Also, visit MiddSafe's site at go.middlebury.edu/middsafe or student group It Happens Here at go.middlebury.edu/ihh.

To report a sexual assault, contact Middlebury College's Title IX Coordinator Sue Ritter (sritter@middlebury.edu) at 802-443-3289. Her office is in Student Services Building 213.



DIAL BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

This children's (?) book is an absolute love letter to the Dominican Republic, all of the brown people born there and those who populate its diaspora. Pulitzer Prize-winning author Junot Díaz scribes a brief and endearing tale around Lola, an elementary school student who was born on the Caribbean isle but can't seem to recall any of its details. Lola's teacher gives her ethnically and racially diverse class an assignment of drawing a picture about where they are from and Lola must tap into her community, asking neighbors and relatives about their memories, in order to create a picture of an island that lives within her.

Díaz's narrative has much in common with his own: he was born in the Dominican Republic and came to the United States as a child. His identity then, like Lola's, is transnational — rich because it is informed by two places, yet negotiated, too, as it is a hybrid. On the journey, readers tour a neighborhood that is filled with people who trace links to the Dominican Republic and cultural products that come from the island, like empanadas. The omnipresent music, too, is a cultural motif. What Lola and readers realize is that many Dominicans are in diasporic spaces because they were escaping a reality that was less favorable. Without ever explicitly mentioning the Dominican Republic's former dictator, Rafael Trujillo, and the many deaths that resulted from his power, Díaz is able to conjure a time when living on the island was equivalent to living under an ominous and encompassing threat.

The book is impressive in that it features a brown girl with highly textured hair leading an adventure of historical memory. There aren't many I can readily name that do this. A better choice could have been made in terms of the size and style of the font used within the work. The text is fine and narrow and sometimes exceeds 100 words per page, which suggests this work is not intended for young children. In that respect, I think Díaz struggled to truly identify his audience. If the readership is, say, aged 5-10, like the main character, "Islandborn" comes off as text-heavy and the political overtones that reference a dictatorship may be lost on children without a good deal of contextualization. That is, without a parent or adult nearby to provide explicit explanations of an era of pain and oppression, children attempting to read this work independently are likely to miss an important layer of the narrative.

I suspect it would be remiss to review one of Díaz's works without acknowledging the accusations against him in the wake of the #MeToo movement. To some people it is not reaching to say that over the last 15 years, particularly following the publication of "The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao," Díaz had been elevated to the status of a literary god.

Díaz became known as a go-to author who would champion the voices of the marginalized and oppressed and has received non-stop invitations to speak on all sorts of topics including the politics surrounding writers of color and transnational writers in the United States. I, too, sought out his thoughts and takes on contemporary politics, following his Facebook publications with attention, admiration and gravitas. I was also impressed by his professorship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and his participation in workshops designed to further develop the work of new writers of color. In short, my admiration ran so deeply, I wanted to marry this man.

Then some deeply concerning reports were made about his character and his behavior regarding how he has treated women and how his power allowed him to treat women abusively without repercussion. As my inclination is to believe people when they identify perpetrators of abuse, misconduct and misogyny, the stability of the pedestal upon which I and we, collectively as a culture, had placed him, was shaken. My trust as an avid and faithful fan was compromised.

If he behaved poorly in the dark — which I believe he did — then what was "Islandborn" when placed in the light? Did he really believe in the power of a story featuring a young Caribbean girl of color? Or was it just a convenient marketing ploy that further branded him in a favorable light? Or something in between? Did he realize that young girls of color mature and become women of color? And that those women of color were being disrespected and violated by his allegedly abusive behavior? Are humans identifying as female only worthy of respect and protection before they develop secondary sexual characteristics that can make them desirable to men? Are they afterwards "prey" and "fair game"?

Perhaps needless to say, I can't read his work with the same eyes I would have in 2017. Díaz's works have their merit, sure. But divorcing the writer from the work he/she/they produce(s) is, in a word, challenging.

Another writer whose character has come under similar scrutiny following accusations of sexual harassment is Sherman Alexie, author of "The Absolutely True Diary of A Part-Time Indian." Bill Cosby, too, star of "The Cosby Show," is serving time for three counts of aggravated indecent assault against Andrea Constand. Comedian Louis C.K. from "Louie" publicly confessed to exposing his genitals to his female colleagues, another form of sexual misconduct. Aziz Ansari, creator of "Master of None," has been accused of misconduct. And Dr. Avital Ronell of New York University, author of many works in our collection, including "Crack Wars" and "Stupidity," has been accused of sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking and retaliation.

I live in a conflicted space because I love(d) what some of these artists produced and, simultaneously, I hate their misogyny and abuse.

If you want to read another work that treats a transnational narrative stemming from the Caribbean, see Edwidge Danticat's "Breath, Eyes, Memory," which, admittedly, is triggering in a host of different ways but features Haitian characters and engages a transnational discourse.

The Middlebury Shop
at FORTH 'N GOAL SPORTS
68 Main St., Middlebury, VT • 802-388-3444

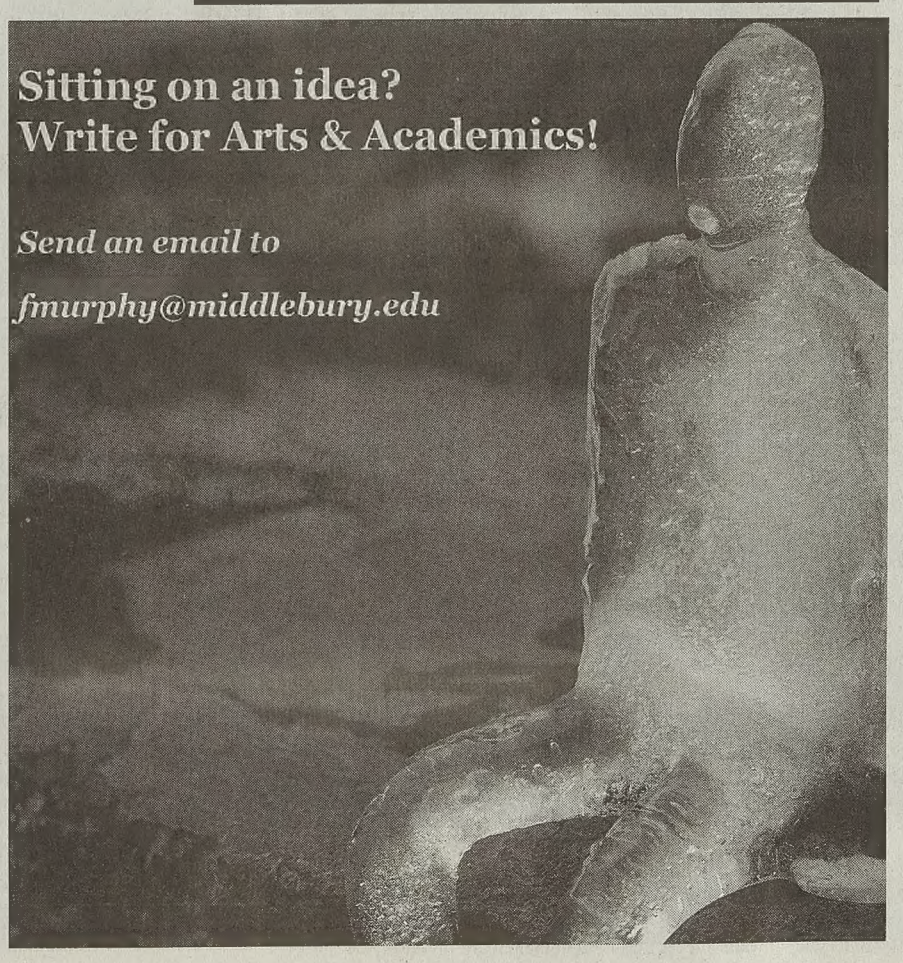
• Tees
• Shorts
• Sweats
• Hats
• Kids/Infant
• Gear
• Gift Cards

www.MiddleburyShop.com

VERMONT COFFEE COMPANY®
CAFE
COFFEE & ESPRESSO
GRAB N' GO MEALS
FREE WIFI
FREE PARKING
The ideal place to —
Write papers
Meet with classmates
Hold a faculty meeting
Ponder your thesis
... or just get a great cup of coffee!
Middlebury ID Card Holders get 10% off select CAFE purchases!
Open 7am to 2pm Monday — Friday
1197 Exchange St. • Middlebury • VermontCoffeeCompanyCafe.com

JUICE AMOUR
RAW • ORGANIC

JUICE SMOOTHIES TACOS
ACAI CHIA PUDDING SOUPS
SALADS SNACKS MILKS
$2 OFF
ANY JUICE, SMOOTHIE OR BOWL
FREE WIFI
LOTS OF OUTLETS FOR LAPTOPS
1396 Route 7 South, Middlebury • 802.989.7271
Monday- Friday 8-5 • Saturday 9-3
JUICEAMOUR.COM

Sitting on an idea?
Write for Arts & Academics!
Send an email to
fmurphy@middlebury.edu


BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

The field hockey team celebrates after its NESCAC quarterfinal win against Colby on Saturday, Oct. 27.

Dancing in the Rain, Field Hockey Crushes Colby 5-2

By CAROLINE BARTLETT
Senior Writer

After a decisive victory on Saturday, the field hockey team advances to the NESCAC semifinals, where they take on fifth-ranked Trinity at home.

Middlebury got off to a great start against Colby, scoring three goals in the first half. Less than four minutes into the game, senior Grace Jennings intercepted a pass and charged up the field, blowing by her opponents before finding the back of the net to make the score 1-0. The Mules retaliated shortly after to tie it up, but Meg Fearey '21 buried a pass from teammate Erin Nicholas '21 on a penalty corner to regain the lead. About ten minutes later, Marissa Baker '20 marked her seventh goal of the season to put the score at 3-1 going into halftime.

Colby struck first in the second half, cutting Middlebury's lead to one goal, but the teams were called off the field immediately afterward due to a weather delay.

"During the rain delay, we talked over the game like we would at halftime," said Baker. "But the radar wasn't looking good and we knew were going to have a lot of time to kill, so for an hour and a half we blasted the speakers and had a dance party. On our team, dancing is our way of staying loose and amped."

Down the hallway, Colby's speakers died, which led the team to ask the Bowdoin women's soccer team to join their dance party. The resulting locker-room dance battle made it onto the NESCAC barstool Instagram and now has almost 10,000 views. "I think that's a really special moment," continued Baker. "What more can you ask for out of sports?"

Back out on the field, still 35 degrees and raining, Erin Nicholas '21 marked her 12th goal of the season and Jennings scored for the second time in the match to stretch Middlebury's lead to 5-2. Meg Collins '19.5 finished with three saves, while Middlebury dominated shots 19-7 and corners 10-3.

"We were very excited for the start of postseason and the opportunity to play Colby again," Nicholas said. "Earlier in the season, we played on their home field, a slower field turf, so it was nice to get the chance to play them on our faster AstroTurf. Everyone stepped up and was focused on our team strategy in order to help secure the win."

Playoffs bring an added level of excitement to the field, when every game could mean elimination. But the approach remains the same. "We knew that on any given day, any team in the NESCAC can win, so we focused on playing our game and maintaining our structure and intensity throughout," Nicholas said.

If all goes well on Saturday, the Panthers will compete for the NESCAC Championship on their home field on Sunday. In preparation, the team will continue to develop its game in order to be ready for anything. "Our goal is to improve our own game so that we can execute and perform no matter which team we face out on the field," said Assistant Coach Lauren Schweppe.

Come out to support the defending national champions on Saturday at 11 a.m.!

BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Meg Fearey '21 scores a goal during the match against Colby off a pass from teammate Erin Nicholas '21.

Who Runs the World? Women's Cross Country

COURTESY PHOTO

The women's team is all smiles after winning the NESCAC Championships on Saturday, Oct. 27.

By JORDAN HOWELL
Senior Writer

After weeks of training, the championship season has finally arrived. The men's and women's cross country teams started off this final stretch of the season with the NESCAC Championships on Saturday, Oct. 27.

Before NESCACs the teams were excited for the upcoming challenge. Theo Henderson '20 said, "We have been diligently maintaining a positive attitude in preparation for NESCACs. Lots of laughs, high fives and smiles." This excitement paid off, as the teams did extremely well against the competition.

With a score of 47, the women were able to outmatch their competitors to win the NESCAC Championships. The top three runners for the Panthers were Rory Kelly '19 with a time of 22:30.1, Cassie Kearney '22 with a time of 22:35.9 and Tasha Greene '21 with a time of 23:06.0. Victory was also achieved thanks to Claire Gomba '19, Katie Glew '21, Tate Serletti '20 and Kate MacCary '19, who were the fourth to seventh fastest runners for the Panthers, respectively.

With a score of 88, the men came in third. Ahead of them was Amherst with a score of 60 and Williams with a score of 86. The top three runners for the Panthers were Jon Perlman '19, Henderson and Henry Fleming '20. They had times of 25:57.6, 26:07.3 and 26:11.2, respectively. In order, Harrison Knowlton '19, Matt D'Aquila '21, Andrew Michelson '19 and Thomas Tarantino '21 were the fourth through seventh fastest runners for the Panthers.

"Our goal was to win NESCACs, but it was a close race between the top three teams," Perlman said. "So we feel that we can come back and beat Amherst and Williams at regionals and nationals."

"I would say that NESCACs was not the team performance we were looking for, although certainly there were some strong individual performances," added Knowlton. "We knew we were better than the score we finished with. A few of our top runners had off races, and while our team does have some depth, it wasn't enough to cover for those in such a competitive field."

If the men and women compete as they did in this race, they are expected to be in a competitive position against their opponents at the next two meets. The Panthers will run in the NCAA Regional Championships on Saturday, Nov. 10 at Bowdoin College.

"We're excited to get another opportunity to race the NESCAC schools at regionals, and we feel like we can win that meet," Perlman said.

BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Rory Kelly '19 sprints to the finish during the Aldrich Invitational on Saturday, Sept. 15.

Photos of the Week

PLAYERS AND SPECTATORS ENTERTAINED WITH PUPPIES DURING RAIN DELAY

BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

BENJY RENTON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

As field hockey, soccer and rugby games were put on hold on Saturday due to a rain delay, spectators' dogs entertained the crowd inside the lobby of the squash courts. While some dogs (top) took shelter under their owners' umbrellas, Yellow Lab Hazel (bottom) quickly put the soccer and field hockey teams at ease.

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Eliza Robinson '21 scored the only goal this past Saturday, edging a win against Bowdoin in the NESCAC quarterfinal.

Women's Soccer Dribbles Toward Victory, Heads to NESCAC Semifinal

By JENNY LANGERMAN
Staff Writer

The women's soccer team started off its drive to the NESCAC championship with a win in the quarterfinals last Saturday, Oct. 27 against the Bowdoin Polar Bears.

Despite unpleasant weather and a two-hour rain delay, the second-ranked Panthers were able to shut out their seventh-ranked opponent with a goal in the first half from sophomore Eliza Robinson. Robinson's game-winning goal marks the midfielder's fourth goal of the season, half of which contributed to conference matchups. This impressive figure is matched by an equally outstanding tally of five assists from Robinson — a team high for the season.

"I was beyond happy to have scored this past weekend, but mainly just excited for our team [to be] advancing to the next round," said a humble Robinson. "Last year we had an upsetting loss in the quarterfinals, so advancing this year was all I and the team wanted."

Additional strong play on the defensive end from goalie Eva Shaw '20 helped Middlebury keep the lead until the clock ran out. She made a career-high 10 saves.

The Panthers will head on to the conference championship this coming weekend, hoping to keep their season alive with a double-header win.

"Some challenges moving forward this week would definitely be that we have to beat a team twice," Robinson said. "I hope our work rate is 110 percent all week since we know that in playoffs every game could be our last."

Men's Soccer Hopes for NCAA Bid After Williams Loss

MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Fazl Shaikh '20 aggressively goes for the ball against Williams on Saturday, Oct. 27. The men's soccer team finished with a close loss but is hoping for a bid to the NCAA Tournament.

By ERIK ARVIDSSON
Staff Writer

Last Tuesday, the Middlebury men's soccer team crushed Williams 2-0 in its final regular-season game. This set up a NESCAC quarterfinal matchup in Middlebury this past Saturday, Oct. 27. The third-seeded Panthers welcomed the sixth-seeded Ephs to Vermont during treacherous nor'easter conditions. The Ephs were intent on avenging their loss four days earlier to the Panthers, and their energy was evident from the opening whistle.

Williams came out of the gate with guns blazing. The Ephs earned four corner kicks in the first 2:42 of the game, putting immense pressure on goalkeeper Matt Hyer '21. During the remainder of the half, Williams put pressure on the goal. The Panthers struggled to gain possession and organize any sort of an offensive attack.

The Panthers fought hard on the defensive end, however, and were able to keep Williams out of the back of the net. The game headed into halftime scoreless. A few minutes after the halftime whistle blew, the red weather warning light atop the scoreboard lit up and the game was delayed to allow for the weather to clear up.

Two hours later, the game restarted. Eleven minutes into the second half, Williams was able to find the back of the net, when Scatt McDonald took a free kick from 30 yards out. Hyer managed to make the save, but was unable to maintain possession of the ball. Williams' Eric Hirsch found the loose ball and shot it into the back of the net. The Panthers pushed and looked for the equalizer but were unable to score; the match ended in a 1-0 win for the Ephs.

"Beating a team twice in one week is not easy to do. We beat them Tuesday 2-0, which was our biggest conference win all season, so I think we expected to win on Saturday as well. Williams brought the fight to us and held us to two shots the whole game," said Hyer. "I think we underestimated Williams' ability to battle us on our field and never really entertained the possibility of losing. As a result, Williams was down our throats from kickoff, and we never really had an opportunity to win the game."

Williams outshot Midd 10-2 and managed five shots on goal. The Ephs earned five corners compared to the Panthers' one.

The future remains uncertain for the Panthers. After being knocked out of the NESCAC tournament, they will have to wait until Monday, Nov. 5 to find out if they will earn a bid to the NCAA tournament. Until then, the Panthers will maintain their normal practice schedule. After finishing third in the NESCAC regular season and drawing against the defending national champion Tufts, the Panthers have a strong case for a bid.

Men's Golf Ends Season on Par

By MIGUEL ESPINOSA
Sports Editor

Men's golf ended its fall season on a high note, when it finished in third place among 23 teams at the New England Intercollegiate Golf Association Championship (NEIGA). The tournament took place from Saturday, Oct. 21 to Sunday, Oct. 22, and was held at the Captains Golf Course, a par-72 course in Brewster, Mass. Brewster, which is located on the bayside of Cape Cod, would have offered the Panthers a coastal retreat from the chilly and landlocked mountains of Vermont. But the weather on the first day was extremely far from ideal. The temperature hovered around the low 40s and was accompanied by wind gusts of up to 20 miles per hour.

The team's performance was hot in spite of the cold temperatures. Middlebury's third-place finish was the result of a two-day total of 618, just shy of first-place Babson's 613 and second-place Williams' 614. Rounding out the top five were Husson University, which totaled 627, and Nichols College with 628. The other NESCAC rivals that competed, Tufts and Bates, landed at seventh and 22nd, respectively.

The Panthers' solid outing could be attributed to the strong individual performances of senior captains Reid Buzby and Philippe Morin, as well as junior David Packer. Buzby took home first-place-medalist honors, scoring 73 in the first round and 72 in the second. His overall total of 145 was just one above par. Morin finished in fourth place, which is remarkable considering that he was tied for 17th after the first round. He ultimately carded a total of 151. Packer, meanwhile, managed to tie for eighth place after scoring 154. He showed consistency throughout the tournament, scoring a 77 on both days. The other Panther golfers, Chris Thompson '22 and David McDaniel '19, tied for 75th and 106th, respectively.

The explanation behind Buzby's success could be his ability to excel in difficult weather. "I knew going into the tournament the conditions were going to be really tough," he said. "I usually perform better than most people in bad conditions, so I was really confident [that] I would have a good chance of winning if I stuck to my normal game."

Regional ties also could have played a role in Buzby's performance. "I'm from San Francisco and I play at a course out there by the ocean, so it gets really windy and cold at all times of the year," he said. "I've gotten really comfortable playing in the wind and cold, while most people are playing in hot and sunny conditions over the summer."

With men's golf not returning to action until the spring, Buzby will no longer need to compete in harsh conditions, provided that winter doesn't last into April. The team will now set its sights on the NESCAC Championship, which will take place at the Ralph Myhre Golf Course from Saturday, April 27 to Sunday, April 28, 2019. This comes after Middlebury finished first at the NESCAC qualifier in September, winning the right to host the championship.

"Individually, I am hoping to bring some of the momentum I had from these last few tournaments into the spring season, and get as many wins as I can during my last year," Buzby said.

While for the next several months Ralph Myhre will lose all of its leaves, be covered in snow and experience less sunlight, one thing will remain constant: the hope that Middlebury golf will soon reign victorious.

Football Fumbles, Loses to Bantams

By LAUREN BOYD
Senior Writer

The Panthers traveled to Hartford, Connecticut this past weekend to face the Trinity Bantams. Middlebury suffered a 48-0 loss, bringing its season record to 4-3, while Trinity won its sixth game of the season.

Offensively, the Panthers had a hard time working the ball down the field. Unable to catch onto momentum, the team did its best to suppress the Trinity offense, but was ultimately unsuccessful. Sophomores Jonathan Hobart and Pete Huggins recorded 12 and 11 tackles during the game, respectively.

Punter Maxwell Rye '20 had an impressive game, with a game average of 41 yards per punt. His season average of 39.7 yards per game puts him on top of the leaderboard for NESCAC punters.

Looking forward, the Middlebury team will be facing Hamilton and Tufts to determine whether it ends with a winning record. The Panthers will also be fighting for a strong NESCAC standing in the coming weeks.

MAX PADILLA/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

The Panthers line up against the Bates Bobcats on Saturday, Oct. 20.

Last year, Hamilton had one of its seasons in the past few years. This year, the Continentals are on the same path, with a 2-5 record and immense potential. Earlier in the season, Hamilton beat Wesleyan in a close 33-29 game, while the Cardinals beat the Panthers earlier in the season. Though Hamilton was able to beat teams Middlebury struggled against, the Panthers will go in looking to turn heads and move up the NESCAC rankings.

Coming up, the Panthers will also face the Tufts Jumbos on Saturday, Nov. 10 for their last home game of the season. The Jumbos are 5–2 on the season thus far and pose a bigger threat to Middlebury's season. The Panthers beat Amherst while Tufts lost to Amherst, proving that this game is up for grabs. Hopefully, a home crowd will ramp up enough energy and excitement for a win.

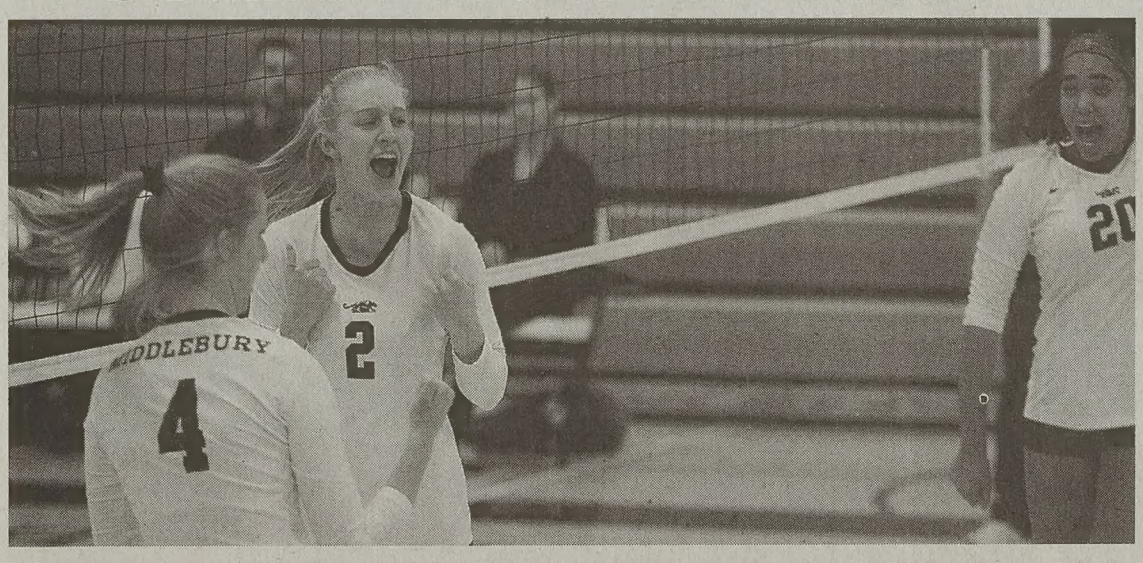
Aditionally, Middlebury will be facing Tufts on its home field for the last game of the season, which will ramp up energy and excitement for the Panthers.

Quidditch Heads to Texas for Nationals

COURTESY PHOTO

After the Northeast Regional Championships this weekend, Middlebury Quidditch clinched a bid for the U.S. Quidditch Cup in Round Rock, Texas, from April 13-14, 2019. Despite inventing the sport, Middlebury has not qualified for nationals since 2012. Led by co-captains Paige Dickson '21 and Ian Scura '19.5, the team went 4-2, beating Skidmore College, Macaulay Honors College, Hofstra University and the New York Pigeons.

Volleyball Hopes to Continue Winning Streak in NESCAC Tourmnament

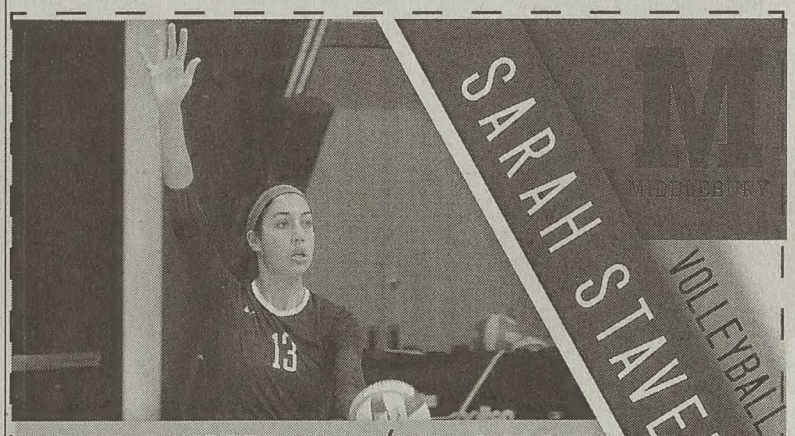


MICHAEL BORENSTEIN/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

The volleyball team has won its last five games and is headed into the NESCAC Tournament, seeded fourth. The Panthers' first match will be on Friday, Nov. 2 against Tufts.

In the Cards

By NICOLE HONG
Sports Editor


SARAH STAVER 13
VOLLEYBALL
MIDDLEBURY
MIDDLE HITTER / 2019
FROM MANHATTAN BEACH, CA
SENIOR CAPTAIN SARAH STAVER HAS BEEN AN UNDOUBETEDLY STRONG PLAYER THROUGHOUT HER CAREER.WITH AN AVERAGE OF 3.36 KILLS PER SET STAVER CONSISTENTLY PLACES THE WOMEN´S VOLLEYBALL TEAM AT AN ADVANTAGE. MOST RECENTLY THE MIDDLE HITTER RECORDED A CAREER HIGH OF 17 KILLS. SHE ALSO TALLIED 10 DIGS NINE BLOCKS AND FIVE SERVICE ACES DURING THE PANTHERS´ WINNING STREAK THIS PAST WEEK. ONE COULD SAY SHE´S KILLING IT. AND WE FIRMLY BELIEVE SHE WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO.

SEASON	M	S	K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SA/S	DIGS	D/S	BS	BA	TOT	B/S	PTS	PTS/S
2018	22	80	250	3.13	52	500	0.396	7	0.09	29	0.36	68	0.85	14	56	70	0.88	321.0	4.0

Did you know Midterms are more important than Presidential elections?

80,000 officials will be elected into office this year, including the *entire* House of Representatives, 1/3 of the Senate, and 36 Governors.

VOTE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Not registered? No problem, in Vermont, you can register on Election Day and then vote. Get all the information you need at **i.vote.org/VermontEDR**

Problems voting?
Call: Election Protection Hotline at (866) OUR-VOTE
Text: "ELECTIONPROTECTION" to 97779

© 2018. Vote.org is a 501(c)(3) registered non-profit organization and does not support or oppose any political candidate or party.

VOTE.ORG

VOTE.ORG